MAXIM

AUSTRALIA

GETTING TO KNOW

TEGAN MARTIN

WHY THE FORMER MISS UNIVERSE AUSTRALIA IS THE REAL DEAL

+

HOLLYWOOD LEGEND MICHAEL KEATON

HOW TO BE THE BEST AIRBNB HOST

MEET THE $25,000 SUPER DUKE BEAST

QUENTIN TARANTINO HAS 24 HOURS TO LIVE

THE GOOD FOOD RULES

EAT RIGHT. BOOST MUSCLE. LOSE WEIGHT.

DECODE YOUR SEX DREAMS

WHAT THEY REALLY MEAN TO YOU AND YOUR LOVE LIFE

NEVER FORGET BENGAHZI

THE TRUE STORY BEHIND THE SCANDAL

ISSUE 59 JUNE 2016

AUST $9.95 NZ $10.95 INC GST

ISSN 1839-0641

9 771839 064006 06

PRINT POST APPROVED PP 100004619

nuclear

WWW.MAXIM.COM.AU

FACEBOOK/MAXIMAU
TWITTER/MAXIM_AUS
INSTAGRAM/MAXIM_AUS
YOUTUBE/MAXIMAUSTRALIA

ASTRON.
THE WORLD'S FIRST
GPS SOLAR WATCH.
ASTRON
GPS
SOLAR

SEIKO
GPS
SOLAR
ASTRON
JAPAN
SDQ RIO FEN PDL LON PAR CAI JED DXB THR DEL DAC BKK
CXI TBU WLG NOU SYD ADL TYO BJS
HNL MDY LAX ANC DEN CHI NYC

SEIKO

seiko.com.au

TATA 2015 PLATE RUN OUT SALE

Choosing the right ute for your business is a tough call. Only you know exactly what you'll be putting it through. But we know a few things about what you'll expect. Like value, safety and, above all, toughness and for more than 60 years we've been putting vehicles in some of the harshest conditions in the world. That's why the Tata Xenon is tough enough for whatever you can throw at it.

VISIT TATAMOTORS.COM.AU OR CALL 1800 883 204 TO FIND OUT MORE.

*Offer ends 30th June 2016 or whilst stocks last at participating dealers only.

GET A 4x4 TURBO DIESEL DUAL CAB FOR JUST $25,990* DRIVEAWAY

TATA

HERO CONDOMS
#1
CONDOM AMONG AUSTRALIAN WOMEN
For every HERO condom sold, one is donated to a developing country to help fight the spread of HIV/AIDS and save lives.
1 FOR 1
HERO
CONDOMS
Now available in
coles
Woolworths
IGA

HERO CONDOMS
2 Pack Regular

HERO CONDOMS
2 Pack Super-Thin

NEW HERO POCKET PACK!

Innovative compact design, perfect for your POCKET. Available in both Regular and Super-thin.

#HEROcondoms #choosetobeaHERO

herocondoms.com.au

SERVICE+PLUS

5 YEAR WARRANTY^ + 5 YEAR ROADSIDE ASSIST + 3 YEAR CAPPED PRICE SERVICE>

ANCAP Safety ★★★★★

5 star ANCAP safety rating applies to D-MAX 4x4 Crew Cab variants built from November 2013, 4x2 High-ride Crew Cab variants built from November 2014. ^5 years or 130,000km whichever occurs first, for eligible customers; excludes accessories and trays. >The Capped Price Servicing Program applies to eligible Isuzu UTE vehicles with a warranty start date after 1 January 2015. The program covers the first 6 scheduled services in line with the scheduled service intervals. Program price subject to change. For full terms & conditions and current pricing go to isuzuute.com.au/service-plus.

OWN WAY

CAST A LINE, ANYWHERE, ANYTIME WITH THE DEPENDABLE ISUZU D-MAX

You don't buy an Isuzu D-MAX just to get from A to B. You buy one for the experiences it delivers. For features that help you get out and catch more – like a powerful and efficient 3.0L turbo diesel engine and Terrain Command 4WD system. A no-nonsense vehicle, for no-nonsense drivers. People whose next fishing spot isn't on any map. People who go their own way.

Discover more at your Isuzu UTE Dealer or visit isuzuute.com.au

ISUZU D-MAX | ISUZU UTE

GO YOUR OWN WAY

CONTENTS

14 **SPOTLIGHT** HOT AUSSIE ACTRESS AND MODEL NATASHA LIU BORDIZZO

20 **MACHINES** THE MAZZANTI EVANTRA, LITO SORA AND KTM SUPER DUKE R

26 **MICHAEL KEATON** HOLLYWOOD'S LONG-LASTING LEADING MAN

28 **HOW TO...** BECOME THE BEST AIRBNB HOST, PLUS PREPARE FOR A HISTORIC TREK ACROSS THE SOUTH POLE

32 **BAR** AGAVE 'TOMMY'S' MARGARITA AND AN OLD FORESTER BOURBON SMASH

36 **STYLE** TAKE THE GUESSWORK OUT OF LOOKING SHARP

42 **COVER GIRL** WHY FORMER MISS UNIVERSE AUSTRALIA AND REALITY TV STAR, TEGAN MARTIN, IS THE REAL DEAL

50 **THE REAL GUYS** THEY SURVIVED BENGHAZI ONLY TO BECOME UNWITTING PLAYERS IN A NEVER-ENDING SCANDAL

56 **STYLE** MAKING ALL THE RIGHT MOVES ALONG THE FRENCH RIVIERA

66 **TOOLS** PUT SOME SHINE BACK INTO YOUR NIGHT-TIME ADVENTURES

68 **GAMES** THREE BIG BOPPERS BRING THE FUN TO A MONTH OF HEAVY GAMING

71 **HEALTH + FITNESS** *THE MAN CHALLENGE* WITH ADAM MACDOUGALL

72 **NOBODY'S TEAM** IS THIS THE WORST GIG IN BASEBALL?

78 **TRAVEL** THE FACTS ON ONE OF THE MOST LUXURIOUS DESTINATIONS ON THE FRENCH RIVIERA

84 **WOMAN OF THE WORLD** MEET THE RUSSIAN BEAUTY ON THE RISE

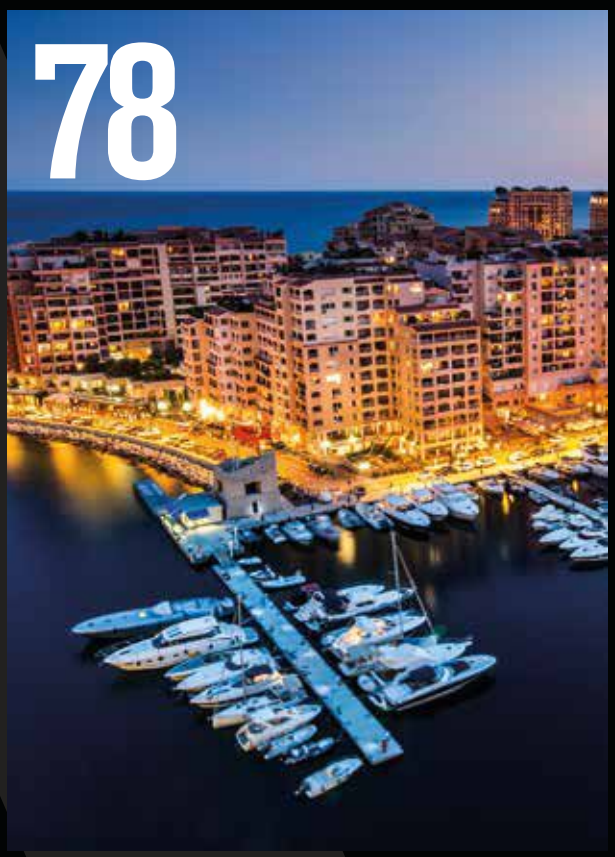
92 **HEALTH + FITNESS** FOOD RULES TO HELP YOU LOSE WEIGHT, BOOST MUSCLE AND GIVE YOUR IMMUNITY A KICK, PLUS A WINTER WORKOUT.

95 **GROOMING** NO NEED TO FORK OUT A FORTUNE TO LOOK AND FEEL GOOD

96 **SEX** WHAT YOUR SEX DREAMS REALLY SAY ABOUT YOUR LOVE LIFE

97 **APPS** OUR EXPERT CHECKS OUT THIS MONTH'S BEST

98 **24 HOURS TO LIVE** QUENTIN TARANTINO ON HIS FINAL DAY ON EARTH



TWO GIANT FOLD-OUT POSTERS

TEGAN MARTIN
EKATERINA STRELKOVA

1841–2016
LORD NELSON BREWERY
Sydney Australia
100% Natural Ale
175 YEARS

THE LORD NELSON BREWERY HOTEL

19 KENT STREET THE ROCKS | T 02 9251 4044 | LORDNELSONBREWERY.COM

MAXIM AUSTRALIA

PHONE +612-7900-6786
MAIL PO Box 230,
Double Bay NSW 1360
EMAIL maxim@maxim.com.au
WEB www.maxim.com.au
FACEBOOK maximau
TWITTER maxim_aus
INSTAGRAM maxim_aus
YOUTUBE maximaustralia

EDITORIAL

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Santi Pintado
(spintado@nuclear.com.au)

ART DIRECTOR
Luke Shaddock
(lshaddock@nuclear.com.au)

MOTORING EDITOR
Bill Varetimidis
FASHION EDITOR
Adriana Dib
GROOMINGEDITOR
Shonagh Walker
GAMING & TECH WRITER
Chris Stead
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Wayne Daniels

ADVERTISING

National Advertising Manager
Drew Haywood
(dhaywood@nuclear.com.au)

nuclear
Media and Publishing

NUCLEAR MEDIA

MANAGING DIRECTOR:
Michael Downs
MARKETING DIRECTOR:
Natalie Downs

Chairman and CEO, Biglari Holdings Inc.: Mr. Sardar Biglari

MAXIM WORLD WIDE BRAND LICENSING
VICE PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL LICENSING Jill Tully
DIRECTOR OF BRAND MANAGEMENT, LICENSING Diana Abehssera
DESIGN DIRECTOR, LICENSING Damian Wilkinson
INTERNATIONAL LICENSING & PUBLISHING MANAGER Stephanie Marino
SENIOR PARALEGAL & RIGHTS MANAGER Catherine Baxter

© 2016 MAXIM Inc. The name "MAXIM" and the MAXIM logo are registered trademarks of Maxim Media Inc., and used under license by (publisher). All rights reserved. The United States edition of MAXIM is published monthly by MAXIM Inc. 415 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017. For international publishing or licensing inquiries: maximworld@maxim.com.

EDITOR'S NOTE

We're all about "keeping it real" here at *MAXIM* headquarters and this month is no different. It all starts with our stunningly beautiful cover girl – former Miss Universe Australia and reality TV star Tegan Martin (check out her sexy feature shoot starting on page 42). She reveals to us that when she often meets people they are surprised that she is "really friendly and chilled out, not high maintenance". That's because Tegan likes to "keep it real" despite having to deal with the stigma that comes with winning the Miss Universe Australia title. In fact, the reality is this beauty from the beachside town of Newcastle in New South Wales is a bit of a tomboy at heart – she is a fun, approachable, happy and loud larrikin who loves an adventure. "It's funny when people think I am a high-maintenance Barbie," she tells *MAXIM*, "but it couldn't be any further from the real Tegan." You had us at "Barbie".

However, the most thought-provoking example of "keeping it real" is our feature story on the Benghazi survivors (page 50). In case you're not familiar with the events of September 11, 2012, Adam Linehan writes… militants stormed the U.S. consulate in Libya's second city and killed Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans. Of the five armed guards who saved more than 25 lives that night, three have publicly stepped forward and two others have been identified only by pseudonyms. The worst night of their lives has been rehashed ad nauseam, and there are a million contradicting versions to choose from, but the real tale of these men – their lives before that night, and their lives after – is far more complex than any conspiracy theory. These men struggle with how to maintain control of their own stories. They feel abandoned and disillusioned, and so they've retreated to what they know – their land, their families, each other – while they figure out what's next.

Enjoy this powerful read, and the rest of another fine *MAXIM* edition, keep reading and above all, KEEP IT REAL.

Cheers,

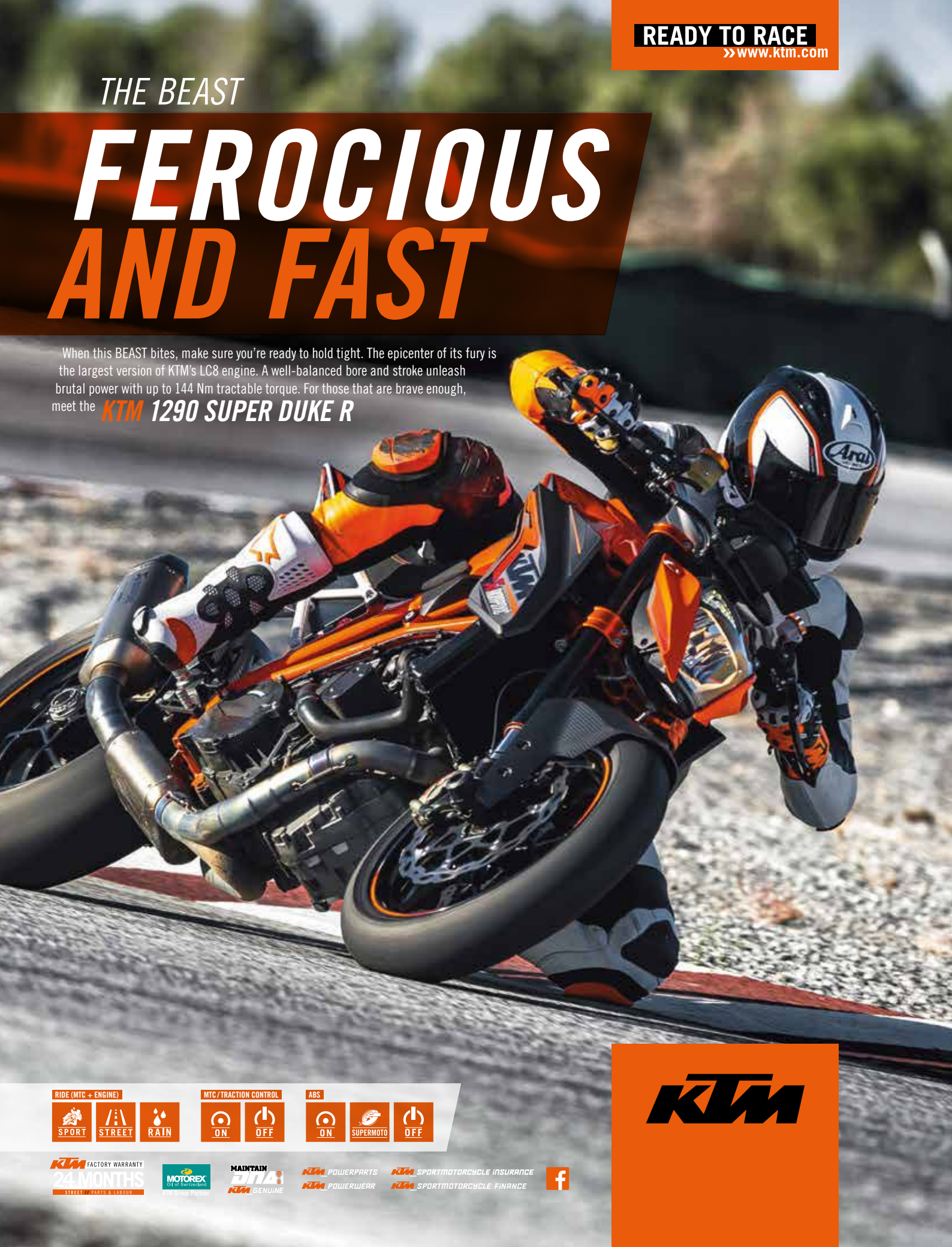
Santi
Editor-in-Chief

READY TO RACE
»www.ktm.com

THE BEAST

FEROCIOUS AND FAST

When this BEAST bites, make sure you're ready to hold tight. The epicenter of its fury is the largest version of KTM's LC8 engine. A well-balanced bore and stroke unleash brutal power with up to 144 Nm tractable torque. For those that are brave enough, meet the **KTM 1290 SUPER DUKE R**



KTM FACTORY WARRANTY 24 MONTHS STREET // PARTS & LABOUR

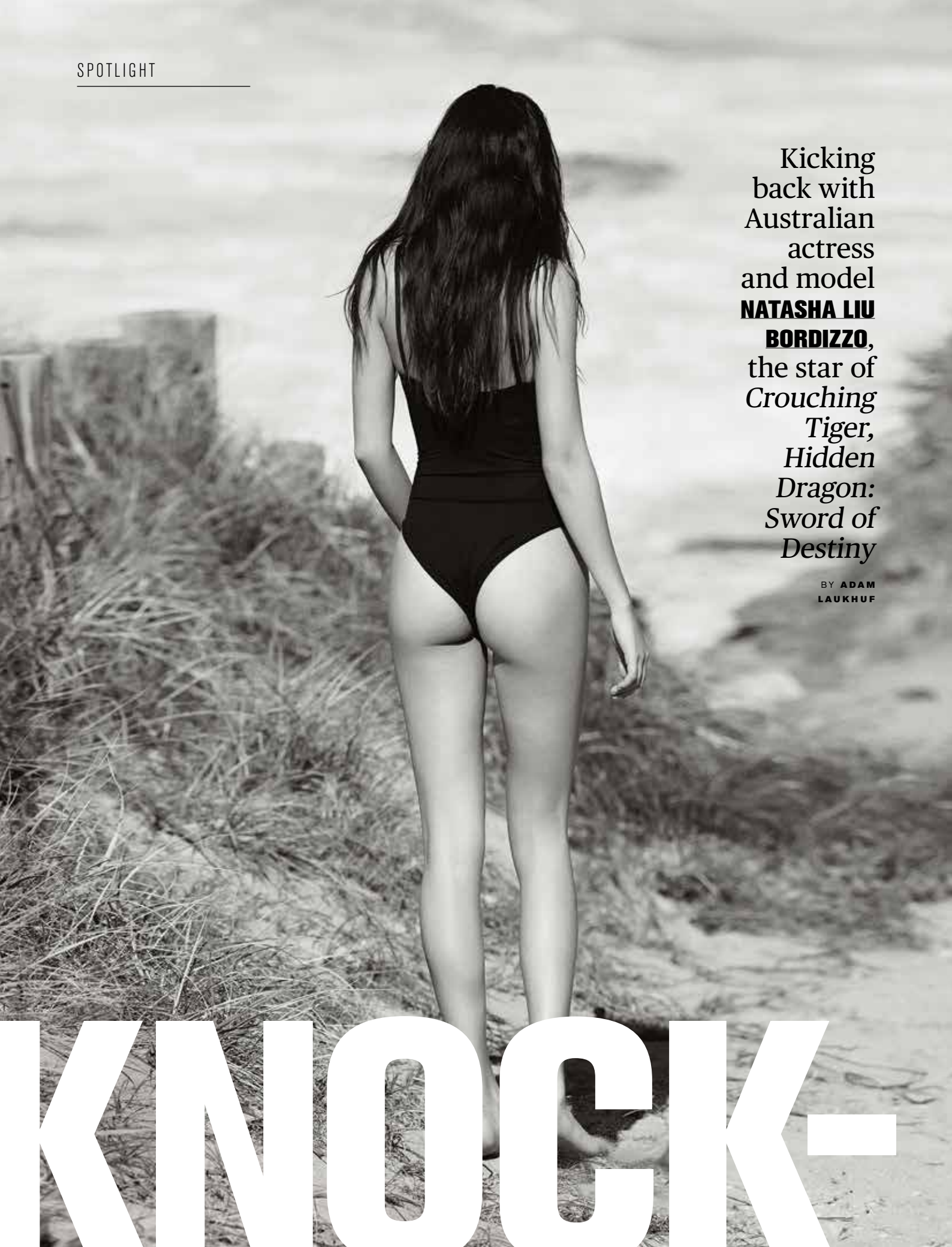
MOTOREX Oil of Switzerland KTM Group Partner

MAINTAIN DNA KTM GENUINE

KTM POWERPARTS
KTM POWERWEAR

KTM SPORTMOTORCYCLE INSURANCE
KTM SPORTMOTORCYCLE FINANCE

KTM



KNOCK-

Kicking back with Australian actress and model **NATASHA LIU BORDIZZO**, the star of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny*

BY **ADAM LAUKHUF**

THIS PAGE:
TOP, **STYLIST'S OWN**; BRIEFS, **WOLFORD**; SOCKS, **PURL HARBOUR**; NECKLACE, **CARTIER**
OPPOSITE PAGE:
SWIMSUIT, **ERES**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **BEC PARSONS** STYLED BY **KELLY HUME**

AT FIRST GLANCE, Natasha Liu Bordizzo might not register high on anyone's list of credible threats. But underestimate this Australian-Chinese, 54kg powerhouse at your peril. In addition to those disarmingly ethereal features, the Sydney native has a black belt in tae kwon do.

Snapping your head back with a roundhouse kick is not her only talent, however. Last year, she was a 19-year-old college freshman with "absolutely no acting experience" when she showed up for an open-call audition for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny*. The revered martial-arts choreographer and director Yuen Woo-ping, who also worked on the original film, had been conducting a worldwide search for the perfect candidate to play Snow Vase, one of the sequel's principal characters. After meeting Bordizzo, he stopped looking.

"It was like I'd hit the lottery," she says. "Everything happened so quickly, I had no idea what was going on." One week after that audition, Bordizzo quit school and showed up on set in New Zealand to star in her very first feature film. She didn't even have head shots. As every actor everywhere will tell you, with seething resentment, this kind of thing just does not happen.

Bordizzo reported to the on-set dojo every day and night for a month to train intensely in Wudang sword fighting, part of the elegant Crouching Tiger-style Chinese martial-arts genre known as wuxia, which involves insane feats of choreography. "It's like dancing, almost," she says. "But that grace can't be faked. It's only when you've twirled that sword a million times with your wrist and elbows that you even start to get it."

She was just six years old in 2000, when Ang Lee's original film was released and went on to become the highest-grossing foreign-language movie in U.S. history. (The sequel is in English.) "I actually watched it for the first time right before filming," Bordizzo admits.

When the film premiered on Netflix to 62 million worldwide subscribers early this year, a new audience disovered Bordizzo, who turns 22 in August. In the meantime, she's living with her parents and working on mastering kenpo, a form of Chinese hand combat she says looks a lot better on film than tae kwon do, which, she's decided, "is not very feminine."

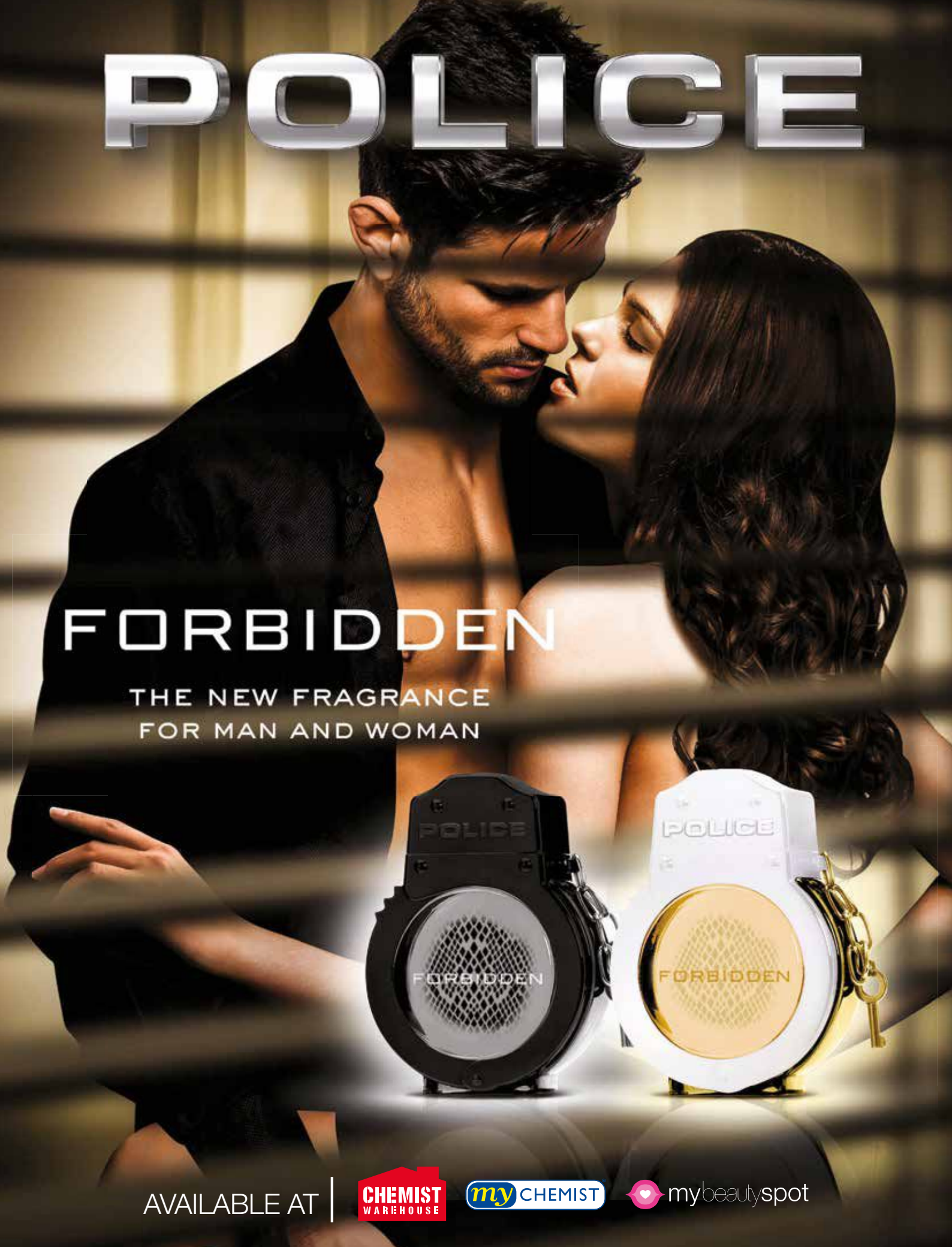
As far as activities go, she enjoys lots of regular girl stuff like horseback riding, figure skating, and posting thousands of pictures to Instagram, but when it comes to her personal style, she embraces her inner tomboy. "I dress like an angry teen boy," she says, laughing.

"I think of myself as such a dorky person that the thought of me being sexy is hilarious," she adds. "My friends and I were just talking about how funny it is that my first magazine shoot is for *MAXIM*, of all things. Like, me? Sexy?"

THIS PAGE:
BIKINI, **IYA AUSTRALIA**;
SHIRT, **H&M**;
NECXKLACE,
CARTIER

THIS PAGE: SHIRT, **ARMOR-LUX BRETON**; BRA, **AMERICAN APPAREL**; BRIEFS, **HANRO**

HAIR, **MICHELE MCQUILLAN USING R+CO & CLOUD NINE**; MAKE-UP, **ANNABEL BARTON FOR BECCA AT SEPHORA**


POLICE
FORBIDDEN
THE NEW FRAGRANCE
FOR MAN AND WOMAN
POLICE
FORBIDDEN
POLICE
FORBIDDEN
AVAILABLE AT
CHEMIST WAREHOUSE
my CHEMIST
mybeautyspot

Mazzanti Evantra

BY **BILL VARETIMIDIS**

Porsches, Lamborghinis Ferraris... they're all household names. Mazzanti however, is a name barely making headlines – even comets get more publicity. But this Evantra model will change all this – with a hip design featuring reverse butterfly suicide doors, and a mechanical heart in the form of an American-sourced 7-litre V8 engine tuned to deliver 700 horses.

In the '80s and '00s, Mazzanti was restoring Maseratis and Ferraris, blending the classic with the modern. Today they are inspired by other European exotics, like the Pagani Huayra and Spyker C8 Aileron.

One key feature which inspires us is the roof-mounted starter button, which is the same design found in the original Antas V8, and jet planes everywhere. We also love how the three-dimensional front fenders look as though a gangster firing a Tommy gun that he practically should be hanging out the window.

There's a dry-sump oil system just in case you want to push it further, but since Mazzanti only plans to make five each year, that would be a decision based on stupid. After all, the name Evantra comes from the ancient Etruscan language meaning: unique object, eternal and exclusive.

Also unique and exclusive, the Italian clothing line that will compliment the launch of the Evantra – which will also be restored Ferrari gear.

ENGINE:	**TRANSMISSION:**	**POWER:**	**TORQUE:**	**TOP SPEED:**	**0-100KM/H:**	**PRICE:**
7.0 litre V8	6 speed sequential	521KW	625 LB-FT	349 KM/H	3.2 SECONDS	US852,000

EV N° 00

Lito Sora

While most bike builders would be happy to slap an electric engine/batteries onto a traditional bike, Lito are going all-out beast mode. Inspired by Street Fighter and Bobber bikes, they have created a machine that claims the highest top speed of any production electric bike – 190 km/h) – blitzing the 170km/h Wattman.

What drives this record breaker is an AC induction motor with power from 12kW lithium-polymer battery modules, coupled to a power management system that ensures you're never stranded on the road with no charge.

With a unique notification system that emails you when it's done charging, it has a range of more than 200km in urban environments, compared to the Wattman's 180km, and the Zero's 141km. But to get a full charge from empty you're looking at a Netflix binge time – roughly eight hours. Also, their battery packs are still expensive – the cost of a Japanese superbike expensive.

But there is good news for the stockier and lankier of us riders; the bike features the world's first ever electric motorbike seat which allows seat height to be adjusted – even when the bike is in motion. All this and those bad boy looks that ladies dig, make the Sora an all-round animal of a machine.

Who said electric bikes were only for geeks? Well, we probably did… but we take it back now.

ENGINE:	TRANSMISSION:	POWER:	TORQUE:	CURB WEIGHT:	TOP SPEED:	PRICE:
Liquid cooled 3-phase AC induction	CVT transmission Belt final drive	12kW	66.37 ft-lb	260 kg	190 km/h	$75,000

THE MAN CHALLENGE

A 10 WEEK ONLINE EXERCISE AND FOOD PROGRAM FOR BLOKES

- ✓ *No gym equipment needed*
- ✓ *Easy to cook Man Meals*
- ✓ *Still enjoy a beer and a burger*

GET FIT & LOSE WEIGHT IN JUST 10MINS A DAY

"I work shift work and was skeptical about losing weight only training 10 minutes a day. But I lost 13 kilograms in 10 weeks, without giving up my beers on the weekend, and now have the energy to keep up with my kids."

BRAD LANGWORTHY

THE MAN CHALLENGE | SIGN UP NOW AT **THEMANCHALLENGE.COM.AU**

The Beast

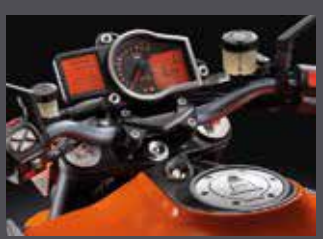
You know you have a weapon on your hands when your engineers fear its power. Blueprinted in October 2013, KTM's marketing team nicknamed the 2016 Super Duke R 'The Beast' and the spec sheet agreed: 180 raging horses, 144 Newton-metres of torque - all in a low-geared street bike. But despite its nasty road-ripping abilities, KTM have managed to make it user-friendly for all levels of riders. Perhaps some kind of black (and orange) magic is involved…

The old KTM 990 was a torquey renegade with excellent suspension, but the 1290 benefits from larger and lighter cylinders – putting it in the category of the KTM RC8 superbike. Essentially you can tear your arms off in any gear, with the tech set at whatever level of insanity you want. While some bikes like the Aprilia RSV4 and the BMW S1000R sneak up on you with their power, the KTM 1290 straight up smacks your senses with its brute force.

Depending on whether Race, Sport or Rain mode is selected, the flexible engine gives you the means to overtake just by thinking about it, or chuck a wheelie in 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th gear – unless the lean-sensitive MTC (Motorcycle Traction Control) system is switched on, of course. The lack of windscreen may concern some newbies – but as a naked bike its part of the experience. The riding position balances elbows-out aggression with lazy day comfort, while the LCD instrument cluster is intuitive to operate – even while motorwaying.

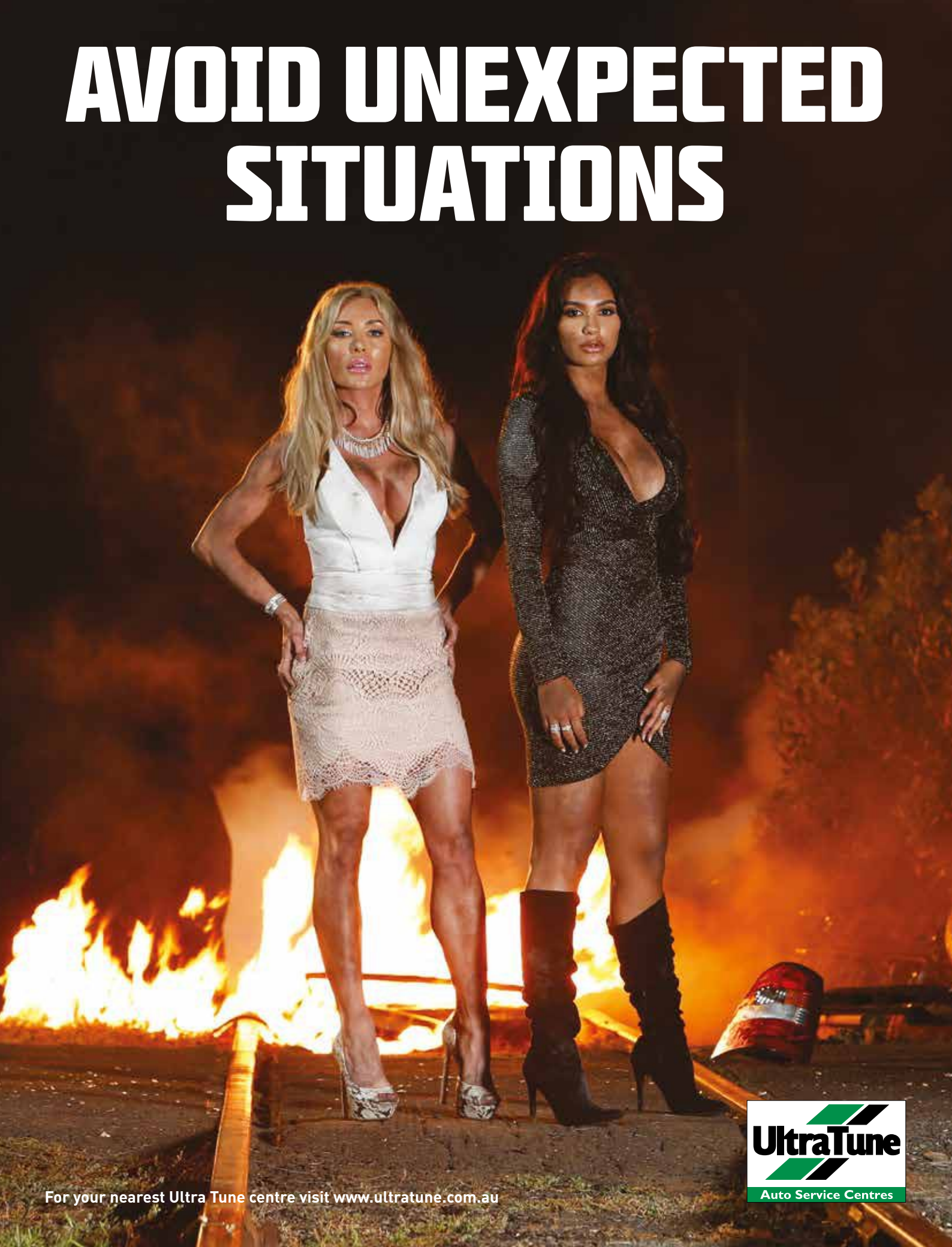
Brakes are top-shelf Brembo monoblocs with Bosch ABS. They bite quickly and hard, with one finger all that's needed even on the track. The bike's minimum design with sharp angles highlight its brutality. There are no covers that drag weight or components with no clear function – even the single swing arm is integrated into the exhaust.

For a limited period, a special edition Duke R will be available. Think of it as an evil twin, not a model upgrade – unquestionably wild, but just as refined with multi-adjustable hand levers, and a tailor-made Akrapovic silencer. It's just that extra ammo the brand wants to lead the naked bikes past 2020.



ENGINE: Four-stroke liquid-cooled 1300cc V-twin	TRANSMISSION: 6-speed PASC (TM) slipper clutch, hydraulically actuated	POWER: 127 kW	TORQUE: 106lb ft @ 6,500rpm	DRY WEIGHT: 189 kg	SEAT HEIGHT: 835 mm	FUEL CAPACITY: 18 litres	PRICE: $23,995+ on road costs

AVOID UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS



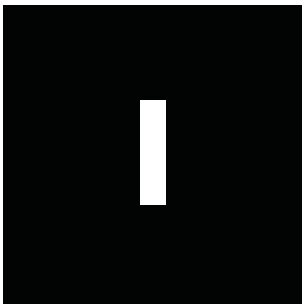
For your nearest Ultra Tune centre visit www.ultratune.com.au

UltraTune
Auto Service Centres

MICHAEL KEATON

Hollywood's long-lasting leading man succeeded by being himself

INTERVIEW BY **ERIC SPITZNAGEL**
PHOTOGRAPHED BY **SERGE LEBLON**



It's been a good last couple of years for Michael Keaton. It started in 2015 with his Golden Globe win and Oscar nomination for *Birdman* – his most high-profile and critically acclaimed movie role in more than a decade. Then earlier this year he starred in another cinematic gem, *Spotlight*, about the Boston Globe reporters who exposed widespread child sex abuse in the Catholic church – the movie won the Academy Award for Best Pitcure. We called Keaton in Los Angeles to see what he's planning next

When Pope Francis visited the U.S. in September and spoke publicly about sexual abuse in the church, was there a part of you that hoped he'd throw out a plug for *Spotlight*?
I was holding out for it. I tried to get some *Spotlight* T-shirts to him. I had a box of crew hats sent to the Vatican, but I guess they didn't get there in time.

You were raised Catholic. Are you a Pope Francis fan?
I'm a big fan, actually, because I feel like he's moving a giant boulder up a hill, and he's moving it more than anyone I've ever seen. I wish he'd do more. I wish he'd say that priests should be allowed to marry, and women should be allowed to become priests, and we're going to hunt down and prosecute all the guilty parties involved in the sexual abuse of children in the church. That would be awesome. But for right now, I'll take what I can get.

You grew up in the suburbs of Pittsburgh. But now you live on a 1,000-acre ranch in Montana. How'd that happen?
From the time I was a kid, I was crazy about anything having to do with the West. I'd look at all of these photos of Montana, and they all seemed so magical and majestic. I just wanted to go west, and I finally did it when I was barely 21. I went off to volunteer at a Navajo reservation in New Mexico. Then I hitchhiked to California, and I hitchhiked to Reno, and from there... this sounds weird, but I can't remember how I got back to Pittsburgh. I have no idea how I managed to find my way home.

The best adventures have occasional blackouts.
Do they? I don't know about that. But that trip was all it took for me. I just fell in love with the West. I was sold. It was over.

What's the most badass Wild West experience you've had in Montana?
Like what?

Ever wrestled a grizzly bear?
No, but I've been within one hundred yards of one. That was terrifying.

How so?
When you're out hiking, in the middle of nowhere – I was on Hellroaring Creek trail in Yellowstone – and you see one of these animals, you feel very vulnerable. One hundred yards seems like a very short distance. Luckily, for us, the wind was in our favour.

I remember watching *Night Shift* on HBO when I was a kid, and you were the epitome of cool.
Oh, come on!

I'm being completely serious. Did you not think of yourself as cool back then?
I didn't think of myself as anything. I was just an actor.

"THE ONLY TRUTHFUL ANSWER I CAN GIVE YOU IS, **THAT'S A REALLY GOOD QUESTION, AND I HAVE NO F–KING IDEA.**"

You're delusional if you think you weren't cool.
OK, well, thanks. I guess, to answer your question, if you're thinking about trying to be cool, you're pretty much f–ked. Hopefully you manage to figure out what a silly thing that is to worry about.

Is the sequel *Beetlejuice 2* really happening?
It's not up to me to decide. If Tim Burton wants to do it, obviously I'll be in. Wouldn't be a question. If there's one thing I'd want to do twice, it would probably be that movie.

How do you play Betelgeuse circa 2016? Has he mellowed with age?
He's probably the same guy, in terms of temperament. But he's had a lot of work done.

Plastic surgery?
Yeah. And he skimped on it. So it didn't do much for him. It actually makes him look worse.

Is retirement in your future, or are you going to keep acting into your twilight years?
A few years back, maybe more than that, the answer to that was a pretty definitive no. I had no intention of doing it forever. But now, I don't know...

So, you're on the fence?
It's not like I'm going back and forth in my head. The only truthful answer I can give you is, that's a really good question, and I have no f–king idea. ■

BECOME THE BEST

BY **JAMES KERLEY**

When it comes to a plan for some income on the side, the sharing economy is making it easier every day. The hotel-disrupting app Airbnb – created by mates Brian Chesky, Nathan Blecharczyk and Joe Gebbia – allows you to rent your entire dwelling, spare room, caravan in the backyard or anything else you are cheeky enough to put a price tag on (and no, not your girlfriend when she's shitting you to tears) as a cool place to stay, and then you simply watch the cash roll in.

But just how legal is it in Australia for something that seems a little too good to be true? As the tech world works at the speed of light, it generally takes a while for legislation to catch up. Although there are over 10,000 Airbnb listings in Sydney alone, local councils have no real common ground and all seem to take a differing stance. Some councils in Sydney allow it with provisions that it is approved with your strata, others allow it with no more than three bedrooms per property allowed and Warringah and Manly allow bed and breakfast accommodation as long as a meal is served. However, nothing at a state or federal level gives the all clear for Airbnb-ing your spare room/property/tent. That said certain council's have threatened Airbnb renters with the likes of $1.1 million dollar fines (for example, Leichardt Council in 2015), a resident in Surry Hills had to pay $15,000 in levies to approve her place for short stay rentals and outside Australia, in cities like New York, there is a huge fight between the establishment/hundreds of hotels (losing thousands and thousands in revenue) and the every-man who is now renting their studios, apartments or anything with something that resembles a bed and watching the tourist dollars come flying in!

AIRBNB HOST

GETTING STARTED

In the early stages of Airbnb their growth doubled by taking professional high resolution and beautifully descriptive photo's of the place to be rented. These days they offer free professional photographers as a service when you first list any property. Pretty bloody sweet. Once you have #profesh photos (if they don't offer this in your area a good real estate photographer will generally lap it up for under $200), put some fresh flowers out and dress up those areas that are unique. You know, bar stools made from those kegs you stole, your favourite bong/vase with some fresh daytura in it... Then, set a bunch of "scenes" that visually paint your place like no other. After all this, get that friend who just got fired from a magazine, newspaper, publishing house... to put their literary skills to use and pump up a nice little descriptive piece of prose to pimp your pad.

'BNB-ING 101

Here are some tips and tricks to not getting burnt and maximising your $$$ with constant occupancy and happy f–king campers who leave positive reviews! Make sure the apartment is clean, with fresh linen and a towel per person – this is entry level shit. Add to this free shampoo, conditioner, soaps and toothpaste and you are getting warmer, but start putting local flowers/wine/beer/milk out, and some local fare to eat when they arrive, and you are really cooking. Having a great guide to the local area and things to do, combined with a simple and functional household and items to make their stay a breeze, and you'll start getting rock solid review after the other. People don't want a hotel, they want a unique experience... so give them that.

PHONE ALONE

If you can have your phone nearby and respond quickly to all enquiries, your rating as a host will improve. Add a little "Yes, Sir" Bell Boy attitude and your guests will love you that little bit more.

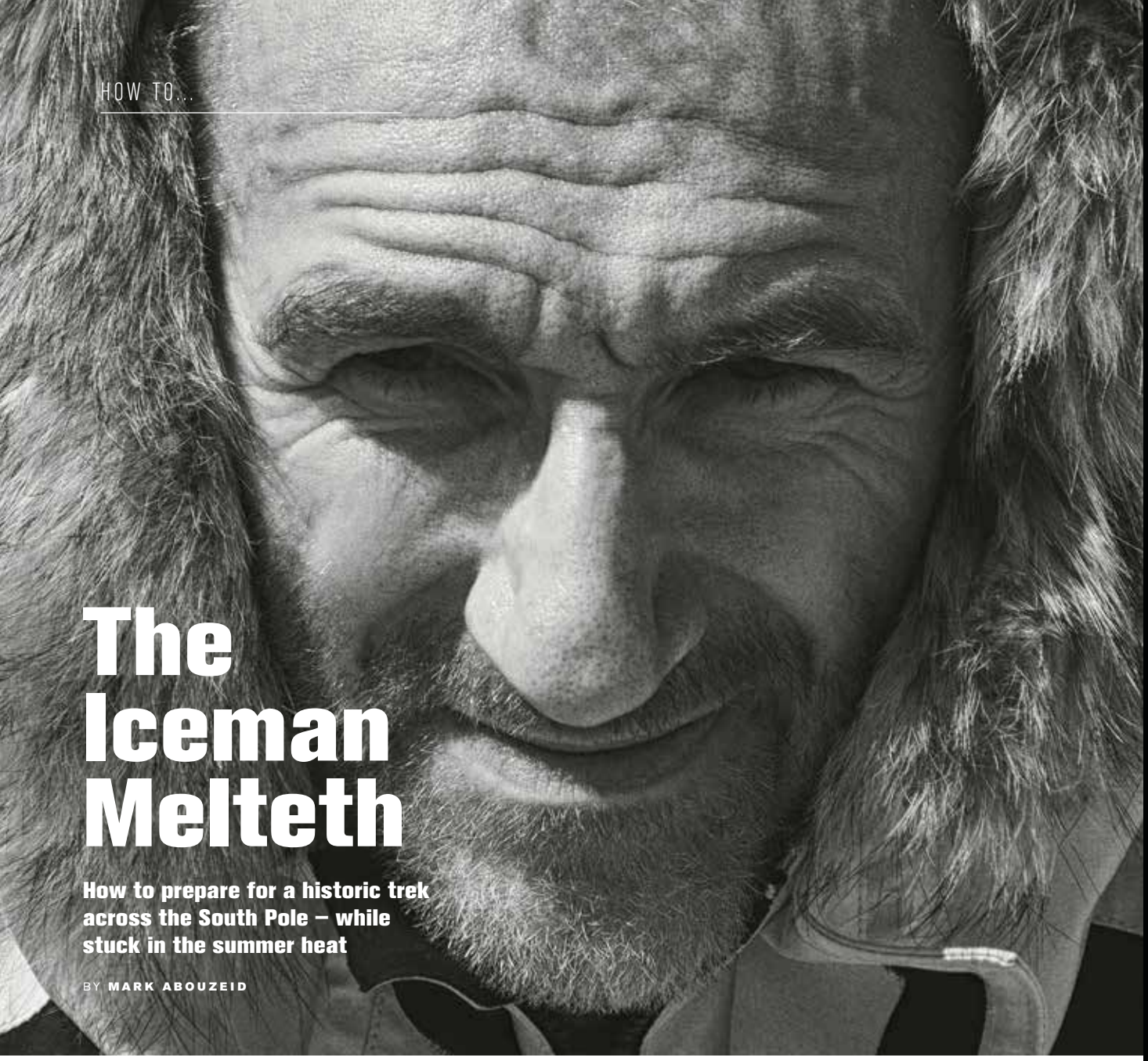
MEET-A-MAID

Cleaning and turning over sheets etc... between guests can be the toughest part of the Airbnb/short term accommodation dream. However, if you can find someone in the block, or a neighbour, to the place you are renting out then offer them a reasonable amount to wash and change the sheets and clean the apartment – you'll take the hardest part of managing a short term rental out of the equation and give some legend a job that they barely have to leave home for. Like you might sugar coat an attempt at a threesome as "a unique chance for three souls to become one" – it also helps to dress up the job title as a 'Property Manager' and get them to take a few pics to ensure a disaster or any damage hasn't occurred. It has a slightly nicer ring when telling their friends rather than saying "I wash stained sheets and scrub dunnies."

***FOR MORE TOP TIPS, LIKE THESE, CHECK OUT* THEMANPLAN BOOK.COM**

DON'T STUFF UP

It's important to make sure you don't have the young party-going type if you don't want to piss off neighbours and cop a call from the local council. A friend of mine lives in a multi-bedroom sharehouse and all the boys were heading to Japan for a NYE snow trip. They banged up the place on Airbnb for what seemed like some easy cash. The guests described themselves as "young professionals". The check-in was the day they left. The blokes who turned up were rough looking and were asked how they knew each other. "From the hostel innit" was the answer and my mates anxiety began to rise. Three nights into the trip a neighbour called concerned about the last 72 hours of parties (one with 100 plus guests) where the police had been called and they'd sub-letted the shit out of the place... they even had extension leads running out the window powering camper vans out front, the washing machine burnt out, etc... For three geezers it sounded like one of the best heists, for the three blokes who came home it wasn't the highlight of their summer. Airbnb did end up giving them $450 for the damages caused and this was their first and last foray in holiday letting. So, if you learn anything from these boys it's not to never venture into the Airbnb world – it's that you need to vet and background check whoever is coming to stay with you. Stick to this plan and make some cash on the side.



The Iceman Melteth

How to prepare for a historic trek across the South Pole – while stuck in the summer heat

BY **MARK ABOUZEID**

Michele Pontrandolfo needs 180kg of stuff to survive. That's stove fuel, food, clothing, technical equipment, a tent, maps, and more, piled up on a sled that, if all goes well, he'll spend November and December (and maybe longer) dragging across a 3,862-kilomatre, hellish Antarctic path called the Southern Pole of Inaccessibility. Temperatures can reach -50 degrees Celsius. Winds will whip up to 485 kilometres per hour. And he will be solo, aiming to become the first person to make it across entirely alone. But today, he is not alone. And he is hot.

It's August and 38 degrees in northern Italy, where he lives, and he is looking for anything that will prepare him for the Arctic suffering. So he's come here, to a rock-strewn landscape called Magredi. It's thematically appropriate: In the spring, the place is a raging river of water from the melting Italian Alps snow. But more important, it is unforgiving – no shade, nowhere to rest, a great place to drag a 23kg car tire across an expanse of gray stones. "It is the closest feeling to pulling a sled across one of the most inhospitable landscapes on the planet," he explains, as sweat runs down his face.

Pontrandolfo is a legend among explorers, and during his 15-year career, he has crossed Greenland, Iceland, the Arctic Ocean, the magnetic North Pole, the Southern Patagonia Ice Field, Ellesmere Island, Svalbard, and the geomagnetic North Pole – often solo. He is 43 and stands just 170cm tall. "When I make speeches or presentations, people are often initially disappointed. They expect someone bigger, someone more heroic," he says.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **MARK ABOUZEID**

Pontrandolfo, underdressed?

But strength isn't the key to survival. "It is the mind and emotions that determine success or failure. Let fear take hold and you are dead." Does he fear dying out there, in the great white nothing? "You can die crossing the street," he says. It is all he'll offer on the matter.

During the coming trek, which could last anywhere from 60 to 80 days, he will get up every morning, break camp, and drag his sled 145km (in good weather) for up to 18 to 20 hours. If he needs it, he'll have a quick snack every 30 minutes. Before settling down for the night, he will build snow walls around the tent to protect against katabatic winds. These form in the low-air atmosphere above the Pole, gain speed from gravity as they descend the Arctic plains, and can reach 322 to 483 kilometres per hour. Hurricane Katrina, by contrast, peaked in the 270s.

The water he'll drink and use to rehydrate his food must be boiled from the snow outside, leaving little time for anything else but sleeping. Despite the climate, Michele's meals will be surprisingly versatile: lasagna, ratatouille, and almost anything else that can both please an Italian man and be freeze-dried.

Sometimes during treks, he cries all day. He isn't ashamed to admit this. Other days he prays, something he rarely does in the real world. He draws strength from his solar-powered iPod, which is loaded with early punk rock, especially the Ramones. He carries chocolate cookies, made by a pastry chef friend, and keeps them dry, safe, and properly rationed to last the voyage. They are like brain medicine, he says. The cookies keep him sane.

But these days, before the journey, that pastry chef friend provides another benefit: He lets Pontrandolfo sit inside his freezer.

It sounds absurd, but it's necessary. Polar expeditions are timed for the most favourable weather conditions. For the North Pole, this is typically from March to early May. Pontrandolfo prefers that schedule: "My body is partially accustomed to snow and freezing weather then," he says. But to hike the South Pole, he must leave while Italy is still warm. For this journey, he'll fly to Cape Town and then farther south, reaching cold temperatures only on the first day of his adventure.

And so, the freezer. It contains gelato and, sometimes, Pontrandolfo. He sits in a two-square-metre space for 45 minutes at a time, acclimating to the subfreezing temperatures. It's also a good way to test his equipment. His sponsor is the French-Italian outfitter Moncler, and the company has been adjusting his customised jackets and other protective gear based in part on what happens in the freezer. Better to find imperfections alongside bucketfuls of vanilla than when immersed in the great, icy white.

Pontrandolfo grew up wandering the woods, riding one of his many bicycles in the mountains, skiing the slopes, and doing other Alpine activities. When he came of age, he joined the military to gain more formal adventuring experience. As he sees it, he's just another tradesman using the skills he learned. His work is a natural consequence of his upbringing. But this job takes a toll.

"ANTARCTICA IS DIFFERENT FROM ANYTHING I HAVE DONE BEFORE. **IT IS MUCH LONGER, AND THE WINDS ARE A HUGE RISK."**

"Antarctica is different from anything I have done before. It is much longer, and the winds are a huge risk," he says. "This may be my last expedition. I am not as young as I used to be."

Even as he says this, he admits there's still more he wants to do. He dreams of a solo journey across the geographic North Pole, another thing nobody has done. He's tried three times: Bad weather and icy conditions forced him to turn back twice; the other time, his plane couldn't even drop him at the starting point. But those are decisions for later. Today, the sun is strong and he must sweat. The freezing isn't far away. ■

LEMON & SPICE

GET INVOLVED WITH THESE TEQUILA AND BOURBON COCKTAILS

RECIPE 1

AGAVE 'TOMMY'S' MARGARITA

PREPARATION:
35 seconds

GLASS TYPE:
Old-fashioned / Rocks

INGREDIENTS:
- 45ml Herradura Plata
- 30ml fresh lime juice
- 15 ml agave nectar

METHOD:
Shake/strain all ingredients with ice, serve over ice-filled glass

GARNISH:
Lime wedges, rock salt rim (optional)

VARIATIONS:
- Try substituting regular salt with new, widely available flavoured salts like lava salt, habanero, or chardonnay oak smoked for a unique and different taste experience.
- Or even try making your own citrus salt, sure to impress, by grating zest of lemon/lime/grapefruit and mix with regular rock salt.

OUR MOST POPULAR FLASHLIGHT
NOW RECHARGEABLE
P7R gives you the look, feel and features of our most popular flashlight model and adds rechargeability for an even better lighting experience - but we didn't stop there! Boasting a massive 1000 lumens brightness, optimised output with Smart Light Technology™ and the convenience of our Floating Charge System™, the P7R takes performance to a whole new level.
ledlenser.com.au
NEW
LEDLENSER®

RECIPE 2

OLD FORESTER BOURBON SMASH

PREPARATION:

35 seconds

GLASS TYPE:

Old-fashioned / Rocks

INGREDIENTS:

- 60ml Old Forester
- 30ml fresh lemon juice
- 15ml sugar syrup
- 10 x 'clapped' mint leaves

METHOD:

Shake/strain all ingredients over an ice-filled glass

GARNISH:

Mint sprig and a lemon wedge

DOOM
PC
XBOX ONE
PS4
DOOM
FIGHT LIKE HELL
13TH MAY 2016
R 18+
RESTRICTED
High impact violence, blood and gore, online interactivity
DOOM.COM
© 2016 BETHESDA SOFTWORKS LLC, A ZENIMAX MEDIA COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
"PS" AND "PLAYSTATION" ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF SONY COMPUTER ENTERTAINMENT INC. ALSO, "PS4" IS A TRADEMARK OF THE SAME COMPANY. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.
PS4
XBOX ONE
PC GAME
id
Bethesda

EXCLUSIVE ENSEMBLE

One-stop shopping from a single fashion brand can take the guesswork out of looking sharp

COAT, SUIT, SWEATER, SHIRT, TIE, AND BAG, **TOPMAN**; WATCH, TIMEX; SOCKS, **VINCE CAMUTO**; SHOES, **ALDO**

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **R.N.** STYLED BY **WAYNE GROSS**

SUIT, SWEATER, SHIRT, AND TIE, **EXPRESS**; POCKET SQUARE, **THE TIE BAR**; BAG, **BALLY**; WATCH, **TAG HEUER**

COAT, SUIT, SHIRT, TIE, AND BELT, **NAUTICA**; TIE BAR, **THE TIE BAR**; WATCH, **ORIS**

COAT, SUIT, SHIRT, TIE, AND SCARF, **J.CREW**; WATCH, **TIMEX**

SUIT, SWEATER, SHIRT, TIE, BEANIE, AND BAG, **PERRY ELLIS**; WATCH, **SWATCH**

GROOMER **SCOTT MCMAHAN AT KATE RYAN USING TOM FORD MEN** MANICURE **SUNSHINE AT ABTP.COM; MODEL, FLORENT CADIEU AT IMG MODELS**

WE ARE THE REVOLUTION.

HOMEFRONT®
THE REVOLUTION

MA 15+ RESTRICTED — Strong violence and coarse language, online interactivity

XBOX ONE | PS4™ | PC DVD ROM | CRYENGINE® | CRYTEK® | DEEP SILVER | DAMBUSTER STUDIOS

2016 and published by Deep Silver, a division of Koch Media, Austria. Developed by Deep Silver Dambuster Studios. Homefront, Deep Silver and their respective logos are trademarks of Koch Media GmbH. Portions of this software are included under license © 2004-2016
tek GmbH. All rights reserved. Crytek, CryEngine and their respective logos are trademarks of Crytek Group. All other trademarks, logos and copyrights are property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.
", and "PlayStation" are registered trademarks of Sony Computer Entertainment Inc. "PS4" is a trademark of the same company.

TEGAN MARTIN

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **NIEL DIXON** INTERVIEW BY **SANTI PINTADO**

IF YOU THINK THIS GORGEOUS MODEL, FORMER MISS UNIVERSE AUSTRALIA AND REALITY TV STAR IS A "HIGH-MAINTENANCE BARBIE" — THINK AGAIN. THIS BEAUTIFUL DOWN-TO-EARTH, FUN, AND LOUD LARRIKIN IS ANYTHING BUT...

"I'M A BIT OF A TOMBOY AT HEART. I LOVE ADVENTURES, TRAVELLING, MEETING NEW PEOPLE AND I REALLY STRUGGLE LIVING IN A CITY ENVIRONMENT."

ey, Tegan, congrats on your *MAXIM* cover. How do you feel?
Great! It's always exciting working with a new team and I'm very proud to be on this month's cover of *MAXIM*.

Tell us about the shoot.
It was all very candid. The photographer, Neil Dixon, and I were playing around being creative and I feel we almost ended up steering towards a superhero vibe. I love the strong poses because it resembles a woman with confidence.

You look hot. When do you feel sexy?
When I haven't tried too hard. After a day at the beach with a bit of a sun kissed glow and salty hair I feel sexiest. My work often entails a lot of heavy make-up and dressing up but with too much make-up and an over the top outfit I just don't feel myself.

What is your best asset?
Argh! This is such an awkward question. Maybe my eyes? I don't know! My friends and family pride me on being someone who is always lifting others' spirits and making people laugh, so I would say this would be one of my better personality traits.

How will the media react to this shoot?
I definitely think it will attract people's attention but hopefully they will pick-up a copy and read more about the real me.

Who is the real Tegan?
I'm a bit of a tomboy at heart. I LOVE adventures, travelling, meeting new people and, being from the beachy town of Newcastle in New South Wales, I really struggle living in a city environment.

What would people be most surprised to learn about you?
I often meet people and they say, "Wow, you are really friendly and chilled out, not high maintenance like I thought you would be." I think the stigma comes with winning the title, but it's funny when people think I am a high-maintenance Barbie. It couldn't be any further from the real Tegan!

The title you refer to is the Miss Universe Australia crown you won in 2014. How did this change your life?
My life changed significantly overnight! I will never forget waking up and thinking, "Oh dear, what have I done?!" It hasn't always been easy adapting to a new lifestyle but it was definitely the best thing that ever happened to me career wise. I'm lucky I have a strong network of friends and family who keep me grounded.

Did any of the past Miss Universe Australia winners give you any tips?
I remember watching *Sunrise* a month after I'd won and Jennifer Hawkins was asked what advice she would give me, as a fellow Newcastle girl, before I was heading over to the international pageant. She mentioned to just be myself and enjoy it. I was pretty chuffed someone I looked up to so much was giving me advice on national TV!

You placed in the Top 10 – did you get to meet Donald Trump?
Yes, I did meet Trumpy and was lucky to converse with him regularly over the month we spent staying at his Golf Resort in Miami. He was very lovely and he thought it was hilarious that while I was chatting to him his mate Skippy called. He even put me on the phone to Skippy and the media snapped the moment which went viral as you can imagine.

Would he make a good U.S. President?
I most certainly do not agree with everything he stands for but I do like his tell-it-how-it-is attitude. There are so many politicians who just tell the public what they want to hear which is quite boring really. I have only good things to say about him, and the way he interacted with people at the pageant, but that's not to say I think he is suited to run the nation that leads the world.

You starred in the fourth season of *The Celebrity Apprentice Australia* (*TCAA*) – what did you learn from the experience?
It was probably three years of life lessons jammed into a few months and by far the best challenge I have ever taken on. The biggest lesson I learnt is not to be afraid to pick-up the phone and ask people for something. I have always been a bit of a procrastinator and avoided contact with people in high positions or people who intimidate me. I was so proud of myself for the amount of money I raised on my own and was shocked at how well received my cold calling went.

What's the biggest misconception about reality television?
Everything you see in reality TV is actually what happened, but there is also a huge amount of footage deleted and never to be seen again. It's disappointing when you did something awesome or said something that was an important lead-up to something else and it is edited out. In turn, you end up sounding like a tool.

What have you mainly been up to since Miss Universe and *TCAA*?
Well, I was lucky to become the face of 1000 Hour products as soon as *TCAA* finished, but my main focus at the moment is working on my new confidence workshops with my business partner Miss USA Nia Sanchez. We aim to travel the world teaching young girls the tools to get through some of the most difficult years of their lives – the awful teens! How to gain confidence, how to set goals and strive to achieve them, how to deal with relationship breakdowns and any other adversities they may face.

Describe a typical day for you.
My days vary each day and that's what I love about the celebrity lifestyle – I always work hard and am filling my day with something. It's like being self-employed – you have to be motivated and get things done without anyone to keep you inline. Lots of events, media shoots, radio chats, script rehearsing and, of course, keeping fit and healthy.

What's the best VIP party you've been to?
I went to 50 Cent's private birthday party in Paris a few years back. I somehow managed to be in a roped-off area with him and his closest friends and had the chance to sit and chat with him for a while. It was pretty cool.

What's the worst hangover you've had?
New Year's Day this year. I like to bring in the New Year with a bang!

You sound like marriage material. Are you single at the moment?
I am currently seeing someone but it hasn't quite reached the 'relationship' status yet.

Do men find you intimidating?
I hope not! There are lots of beautiful woman out there and I don't like to let my job have an impact on what people think of me. I have to be very comfortable with someone before I open up about my life to them.

What do you look for in a guy?
No ego. Oh, and they definitely have to be able to make me laugh!

Would you ever date one of your social media followers?
Yes of course, if they met the criteria, but I wouldn't have the courage to meet up with a complete stranger.

What's one thing men should always know about women?
They should always know how their girl's day is going and what they can do to make it better.

Where do men go wrong in the bedroom?
Depends on the guy. One thing I'd advise men not to do is have sex with a girl and then roll over and go to sleep! It doesn't sit well with any woman and is a hot topic of discussion in female land.

What's next up for you?
There are a few things in the pipeline as continue to work towards a career in TV. Of course, I am not able to talk about them, but whether it be acting or presenting I love performing and being in front of the camera. So, we'll see what happens.

STATUS UPDATE

BORN: September 7, 1992

HOMETOWN: Newcastle, NSW

FIVE-WORD SELF-DESCRIPTION: "Fun, approachable, happy, loud, larrikin."

FAVOURITE DRINK: "Piña colada – my all-time fave!"

GIRL CRUSH: "Margot Robbie. She has made Australia proud."

HOBBIES: "Laughing, any sports that involve hand-eye coordination and cooking."

WEIRDEST TWEET FROM A FOLLOWER: "*I would swim through a piranha-infested river just to hear you fart through a walkie talkie.* Definitely a WTF moment!"

HIDDEN TALENT: "Rapping. My best friend Emma and I slay!"

BIGGEST PHOBIA: "Clowns. I haven't been a fan since I was a little girl."

LIFE MOTTO: "Always do your best, what you plant now you will harvest later."

INSTAGRAM: @tegan.martin

TWITTER: @Tegan_Martin

SNAPCHAT: tegan-jade

"ONE THING I'D ADVISE MEN NOT TO DO IS HAVE SEX WITH A GIRL **AND THEN ROLL OVER AND GO TO SLEEP!"**

"I'D DATE ONE OF MY FOLLOWERS, IF THEY MET THE CRITERIA, BUT I WOULDN'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO MEET UP WITH A COMPLETE STRANGER."

Mark Geist in Fowler, Colorado

NEVER FORGET BENGHAZI

BY **ADAM LINEHAN** PHOTOGRAPHED BY **SEBASTIANO TOMADA**

Glen Doherty

Tyrone Woods

Sean Smith

Chris Stevens

They survived Benghazi only to become unwitting players in a never-ending scandal. If they have to fight, they'll fight. But this time it's to protect their own

The plan was to make jack-o'-lanterns. John Tiegen and Mark Geist have brought their families out here, to the scraggly wilds of Tiegen's 40-acre Colorado property, so the kids can carve pumpkins while the men hunt small game. But the guns prove more appealing to everyone, so the plans converge. "Cover your ears, guys," Tiegen says as he slaps a 14-round magazine into his NEMO Watchman, the Ferrari of semiautomatic precision rifles. To his right, Geist stares through the scope of his custom AR-15. Then they light up the pumpkins. Orange guts explode. The kids cheer. The men move on to the animals.

"Want me to skin that?" Geist asks, pointing to a rabbit with a bullet in its head. Geist's family settled on the eastern plains more than 100 years ago. He grew up the way kids here always have, with guns and horses and Wild West lore. He can tell the time using nothing but the horizon and his fist. Point to a random tree or cactus and he knows its name. He, like Tiegen, is a man of self-reliance. And so he places the carcass on the ground, kneels over it, and pulls back the sleeves of his camouflaged jacket. His left forearm is a map of scars. He's always been proficient with a knife, but these days, his thumb doesn't flex naturally; he has to compensate, clamping the knife hilt between his fingers and his palm. "I used to be faster at this," he mutters.

The black memorial bracelet on his wrist flashes in the sun. Tiegen wears one, too. It reads: TYRONE "RONE" WOODS, GLEN "BUB" DOHERTY/LIBYA 9-12-12.

Two of the dead in Benghazi.

On September 11, 2012, militants stormed the U.S. consulate in Libya's second city and killed Ambassador Christopher Stevens and three other Americans. Of the five armed guards who saved more than 25 lives that night, three have publicly stepped forward: Tiegen and Geist, who live near each other in rural Colorado, and Kris Paronto, who's in Omaha. The other two have been identified only by pseudonyms, Jack Silva and Dave Benton. If you want to know what actually happened in Benghazi, go read something else. The worst night of their lives has already been rehashed ad nauseam, and there are a million contradicting versions to choose from.

The real story of these men – their lives before that night, and their lives after – is far more complex than any conspiracy theory. And now that Benghazi has gone from personal tragedy to national drama, they struggle with how to maintain control of their own stories.

Some tried returning to the battlefield. "I told my son that I was thinking about going back to fight bad guys, and he just about lost it," Paronto says. He has three kids – an 11-year-old boy, an eight-year-old girl, and a newborn. They grew up with a dad who went off to work in dangerous places and always came home – each time a little rougher around the edges, yes, but all in one piece. Then, after Benghazi, he took a job in Yemen. He's a professional gunslinger; what else was he going to do? "My little girl, she never used to cry when I left – but when I left to go to Yemen, she cried and cried."

But after going public with their story, that wasn't an option anyway. The men were ostracised by the CIA and the State Department. No hero's welcome or ticker-tape parades on their behalf. That's because they were not soldiers, sailors, airmen, or Marines. They were private security contractors – a distinction that means very little when bad guys are pointing guns at you, but turns out to mean a lot when you're back home in America, having just shed blood in the name of your country. They now feel abandoned and disillusioned, and so they've retreated to what they know – their land, their families, each other – while they figure out what's next.

Later in the day, the rabbit skinned and gutted, we hop into Geist's Z71 4x4 truck. He pulls out his phone, the same one he was carrying when the French 81-mm mortars hit, and shows me a picture of his friend's gravesite in California. It belongs to one of the men killed by his side in Benghazi. The words FIERCE PATRIOT are engraved on the headstone. Geist turns on the stereo.

"Ever heard this?" he asks. It's Radney Foster's "Angel Flight," an ode to pilots who fly fallen soldiers home. *All I ever wanted to do was fly,* the song begins, and Geist eases up the volume. Geist is quiet and direct, dressed head to toe in camouflage. But as we drive past cornfields and grain silos, he begins singing along. *Come on brother, I'm taking you home.* It's not a performance; it's like a man speaking the truest words he knows. He finishes the whole song.

What were they even doing in Benghazi? They were just working the next job, in what seemed like a never-ending series of opportunities for men with military experience who preferred to make a living outside the military. All three were reared on God and country in rural Colorado, and each entered the service right out of high school. The grandson of a decorated WWII veteran, Geist saw the Marines as the obvious continuation of a childhood spent hunting, shooting, and being outdoors. "I didn't see much point in college," he says. For Tiegen, the Corps was the only perceivable gateway out of town. He spent nearly every day after school hanging out at the local recruitment office until he was old enough to join. Paronto, who played wide receiver at Colorado Mesa University, was preparing to try out for the Broncos when an Army recruiter spotted him in a crowd. "I think he saw *sucker* written on my forehead," he says. "He showed me this video of Rangers jumping out of helicopters, and I said, 'Sign me up!'"

By 2003, the year the U.S. invaded Iraq, all three had completed their military service and were back home. Geist had become a bounty hunter, after a brief stint as his hometown's police chief. Tiegen was a heating and air-conditioning technician. And Paronto was fresh out of the Army, discharged on medical grounds after doctors diagnosed him with Crohn's disease. None had seen combat during their service, and all missed the military lifestyle and camaraderie.

"I TOLD MY SON THAT I WAS GOING BACK TO FIGHT THE BAD GUYS, AND HE LOST IT."

The military prohibits soldiers from pulling back-to-back deployments. But there's another option for people who prefer to make their living in war zones: private security contracting, which provides steadier work and better pay than

Uncle Sam. There are plenty of these jobs to go around, as the U.S. increasingly outsources to companies like AirScan and DynCorp, turning military contracting into a multibillion-dollar industry. Tiegen, Geist, and Paronto quickly fell in love with the job; back then, in the early days of George W. Bush's "war on terror," coalition forces were scrambling to establish a foothold in the Middle East and private firms were free to operate on the battlefield with little oversight. "It was like the Wild West," says Geist of his first contracting gig in Iraq with Triple Canopy, in 2004.

In theory, contractors play a strictly defensive role, usually guarding government officials and embassies in war zones. But in Iraq and Afghanistan, where the enemy usually brought the fight, they were often forced to go on the offensive. That's what makes contractors so attractive to the Pentagon. They draw fire that would otherwise be directed at American forces, while "not getting counted as boots on the ground or, if something goes wrong, as casualties," explains Georgetown University professor of security strategies Sean McFate, author of *The Modern Mercenary.* "They're invisible people."

John Tiegen and his son at home near Colorado Springs

For most of the three men's careers, the risk seemed manageable. They all eventually landed on the CIA's Global Response Staff (GRS), an elite paramilitary unit – of contractors – responsible for protecting spies operating in volatile countries, sometimes in places beyond the U.S. military's reach. Benghazi was one of those postings.

This isn't the space to relitigate what happened next, but it's important to know: Tiegen, Geist, and Paronto felt abandoned and expendable. At one point, Tiegen says, he and several other GRS operators were chased through the streets of Benghazi by a group of men armed with AK-47s, and the senior CIA officer in Libya – a man known publicly only by his alias, "Bob" – refused to send help. "Bob treated us like lower class," says Paronto. When the consulate was stormed, the Pentagon sent a surveillance drone and no additional help.

Nine months after the attack, in the spring of 2013, the team reunited for the CIA's memorial ceremonies for two of their fallen colleagues, Woods and Doherty. By this point, the events in Benghazi had become a political football; politicians and pundits had plenty to say, but nobody had heard from the guys who were actually there. "Five minutes before the ceremony starts, the CIA hits us with nondisclosure agreements," says Paronto. "After that, we all sat down and were like, 'What are we going to do – start telling the truth?'"

This is a question many soldiers have wrestled with after emerging from the battlefield under controversial circumstances. When Dakota Meyer, a former Marine, was awarded the Medal of Honour for his actions in Afghanistan in 2009, he used the spotlight to accuse Army commanders of denying crucial artillery support to his besieged unit, which lost four men in a Taliban ambush. Likewise, after Pat Tillman was killed in Afghanistan in 2004, a fellow Army Ranger revealed that he had been pressured by his superiors to keep secret that Tillman was accidentally killed by members of his own platoon. In both cases, the results were messy but productive: The government, when publicly chastened by its own heroes, will take action.

Paronto, Tiegen, Geist, and the other two contractors signed the NDA – they didn't want to cause a fuss at the memorial – but decided to write a book anyway. Less than a year later, their work, *13 Hours,* quickly became a best-seller. They were invited onto TV shows and to political rallies. Their careers with the CIA were over, but something new and completely unexpected was beginning. Within six months, Hollywood came calling, too. And that's how they went from being the secret soldiers of Benghazi to Michael Bay's *13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi*. The movie was recently released.

Can war stories have superfans? This one does. It's early October, Tiegen's 39th birthday, and we're celebrating at his ranch-style house on the outskirts of Colorado Springs. By 7 P.M., the party is in full swing, and kids are chasing each other all over the place. And there's this woman there. She's young, attractive, with eager brown eyes. She offers me a Budweiser with a patriotic red, white, and blue label. "The beer of heroes," she calls it. Then she starts talking about Benghazi.

I'm not expecting this – not here, at least. To Tiegen and the others, *Benghazi* is almost shorthand for "what you don't know about me." They aren't the Benghazi Guys inside their own homes; they're just men who survived some awful shit and are out of a job. "We did the right thing, people crapped on us, and here we are," Paronto once told me. "Really, it's that simple." When the guys were on Michael Bay's movie set in Malta, there to ensure a Hollywood-ish level of realism in the film, the wives didn't even come along. "It's their thing," Tiegen's wife explains. Home and Benghazi: They can never truly be separate subjects, but the families build the best firewall they can.

This woman didn't get that memo. I ask her what it is about Benghazi that resonates with her so deeply, and she responds by quoting the book *13 Hours,* the way college students cite philosophers. "Numerous times, Jack Silva says, 'We probably

John Tiegen during a coyote hunt in eastern Colorado

won't make it out of this one, but we have to keep trying.' It's so profound to me," she says, citing the pseudonym of one of the still-anonymous Benghazi contractors.

The conversation goes on like this. She seems to have the book memorised. I look around the kitchen. *Who is this person?* In my peripheral vision, wives have congregated, listening, and I get the feeling I've stepped out of bounds. The woman then reads me a poem she wrote, titled *2132* for the time when the attacks began. Later, I excuse myself and ask a few of the wives who the woman is. The best explanation I get is basically: She introduced herself at a book reading, she's very emotionally invested in the story, and now she's just *around*.

This is the strange phenomenon of losing control of your own experience. Everybody knows at least something about it, and they fit it into their lives in ways big and small. When actor Pablo Schreiber, who plays Paronto in the film, visited Paronto in Omaha, the fathers discovered their sons chasing each other around the backyard with toy guns – "playing," they said, the Battle of Benghazi.

Sometimes people are even actively disinterested in the honest version of events. The men are regularly invited to speak about their experience, and the first time Paronto ever did, at the Army Navy Club in D.C., the promoter pulled him aside afterward and told him that his speech was depressing. So Paronto went back to his hotel and revised it, to make it more inspiring. "We could've given up a bunch of times that night, but we never quit, and we saved lives," he says now. "'Never quit' – I sign that in all my books."

Kris Paronto in Omaha, Nebraska

Geist and Tiegen are less comfortable speaking before an audience, although they realise that in talking about Benghazi, they can at least draw some income while they figure out what's next. The money from the movie and the book deal have earned each guy about what he'd have made in two years of overseas contracting – hardly life-changing money, but a welcome stopgap that enables a few small luxuries, like an expensive bottle of scotch. That's what Tiegen is pouring shots of when I find him downstairs in his basement-turned-man-cave, late into the night at his party. A serious poker game has been going on for hours. All shots are poured.

A doctor told Tiegen that he has fat on his liver, so he's not supposed to drink, but he allows himself just this one. We raise our glasses.

"To the fallen," a woman says. I look over to see who said it: It's the superfan.

There's a Starbucks in a Target in Omaha where Kris Paronto knows everybody's name. I travel here to visit him before heading to Colorado. "This is my Zen place," he says, circling the counter to give the woman behind the register a big hug. As she gets started on his "black eye" – a large cup of coffee laced with two shots of espresso, his usual – Paronto explains that this is where he'd always come to clear his head whenever he returned from overseas. "I'd just get my coffee and walk around for hours," he says. "Contracting isn't like the military, where they send you to talk to a counsellor the second you get off the plane."

This likely isn't how the average American imagines a military contractor. The industry's public reputation was largely established in 2007, when a group of Blackwater employees killed 17 Iraqis in Nisou Square. Contractors seemed like faceless and unaccountable brutes, fuelled by sweetheart government contracts that ran into the hundreds of millions of dollars. Blackwater became such a tarnished brand, the company changed its name twice – to Xe Services in 2009, and then to Academi in 2011.

But outsourced fighting has only expanded since then, and contractors have counted for more than half of the American workforce in Iraq and Afghanistan. When in the field, contractors often take orders directly from the U.S. government. And yet, they're not entitled to the same medical or death benefits as military veterans. "A lot of these guys are deeply patriotic, but they don't get any respect," says McFate, the Georgetown professor. The way he sees it, military contractors are this generation's Vietnam War soldiers – people who put their lives at risk for the American cause and then came home to a scornful public. "We have an all-volunteer military, so what's the difference between the soldier who volunteers for the Army versus someone who gets hired by one of these companies? Why is one automatically more noble than the other?"

Paronto certainly agrees with that. He's a former Army Ranger, but he now feels a kinship with his contracting brethren. Benghazi was just an extreme example of their struggle, he says: They're protecting innocent people in war zones, and are rewarded with continued hardship and deep suspicion. Now he's suspicious of the government; a faded DON'T TREAD ON ME flag hangs from the flagpole in his yard, on the edge of a sloped forest about 20 minutes from downtown.

As speaking requests have rolled in to all three men, Paronto

has been the most eager to take them. He gets paid about US$5,000 per gig, and he packs his schedule. When we meet, he's just booked a talk at Pepsi's New York headquarters. But he speaks with purpose; he wants to tell a noble story, to change how Americans see and treat contractors. So he's guarded about the circumstances he puts himself in. When a publicist relays a TV news interview request, he dismisses it. "I'm not going to do it if it's any of that Bill O'Reilly-type shit," he says. "I'm tired of the media just using us to push their own agendas."

Of course, with both the Michael Bay film and the elections looming on the horizon, the real media onslaught has yet to begin. As the House committee to investigate the Benghazi attacks continues to devolve into a political slugfest, more people may turn to Paronto, Geist, and Tiegen for answers. At events, they're often approached by people with tears in their eyes, heartbroken by the idea that their own government would ever abandon citizens in a war zone. Disillusioned as he is, Paronto's instinct is to console. Yes, he says, Benghazi was a debacle. It exposed critical weaknesses in the system we trust to protect us. But a few good Americans were willing to step up and risk everything – and that's our country's strength, and the story worth telling.

You're supposed to act different than how you normally do, because you're in the limelight," Tiegen says. "That's probably the most annoying thing. I'm not going to change." What would need changing, anyway? That's open to speculation. Certainly, he's not a character that every social corner of America would understand. He's wary of the government, which may be why he's currently teaching his three-year-old son how to shoot an AR-15. But whatever: Let America have its book and movie about his life, because he doesn't want to read or watch either anyway. They both start with his friends alive and end with them dead. "I know what's coming," he says.

How will they move on from Benghazi? It's a question they ask themselves. Sure, the experience has led to paid speaking gigs and some level of fame, but to what end – to just relive their worst experience over and over again? "All these people I don't even know want to be buddy-buddy," Geist says. "The principal at the local school calls me Hollywood. 'Hey, Hollywood!'" Meanwhile, they're still suffering a physical toll. Geist has endured 14 surgeries and still has only partial mobility in his left hand. His short-term memory has also yet to fully recover from the explosions. Tiegen suffered smoke inhalation, which scorched his lungs and left him with a perpetual cough. He now has thoracic outlet syndrome, which drained his strength by what he says is about 50 percent. "I tried going back to work," he says, "but when we'd go to the shooting range, my pistol would just fly out of my hands." Interest in them will fade. This can only last for so long. They know it. "Once we're no longer the flavour of the month, what do I do?" Paronto says. "I don't get to do what I love anymore."

Geist wants to show me what he's been planning, so we hop in his truck and drive down amid the cactus-dotted hills and alfalfa fields. He started breaking and riding horses as a young boy on this land, and raised hogs for pocket money. For fun, he and his friends would make bets to see who could sneak up closest to an antelope and shoot it with a .22 pistol. "We rarely got them," he says, "but it taught me how to use the terrain."

We drive past a house he bought for US$20,000. He's been renovating it ever since he returned from Benghazi. "It's been good therapy," he says. Then we head to an old tomato cannery on the edge of town. Inside, in a dimly lit nook, shelves are stacked with copies of *13 Hours*. Photographs of Woods and Doherty hang on the walls. Geist hands me a flyer for Shadow Warrior Project, the foundation he and his wife recently started. The flyer reads: "To honour our brothers who are contracted to serve their country silently behind enemy lines and through their heroic and courageous acts have fallen or been injured."

As we're leaving his office, Geist turns to me and says, "Tiegen deserves a medal for what he did that night. If he hadn't pulled me off that roof, I'd be dead."

That evening, back at Tiegen's, we all settle into the man cave to watch the trailer for Bay's *13 Hours* on his big-screen TV. After that, we stumble upon one of the Internet's all-time lamest video genres: people filming themselves watching movie trailers. *13 Hours* has proved to be a popular muse. We pull one up. "It didn't feel really right or left wing, just kind of natural," says a gangly hipster with a slash of bleached hair across his forehead. Geist and Tiegen are intrigued, so we watch another. Then another. And then we find one that features a bulky dude in a gray Aeropostale shirt. He's sitting in a small apartment – his refrigerator is visible on the left of him, and his bed on the right – smirking and brow-furrowing his way through the trailer. I watch Geist and Tiegen as they watch this guy, who wants other people to watch him watch a movie based on the lives of the people I'm watching. And then Aeropostale Guy turns to the camera – in effect, turns to Geist and Tiegen – and says, "Hmm, true story, told Michael Bay-style," and he laughs. "So you know it didn't go *exactly* like that." Tiegen stands and flips on the lights. He's done. But Geist remains seated. "Yeah," Geist says, staring at the screen. "It's a true story." ■

GOLD MAGIC

THE DEBUT FRAGRANCE
BY LITTLE MIX

littlemixfragrances.com

AVAILABLE AT | CHEMIST WAREHOUSE | my CHEMIST | mybeautyspot

Chess Games

MAKING ALL THE RIGHT MOVES, AND DOING IT IN STYLE, ALONG THE FRENCH RIVIERA

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **TOMO BREJC** STYLED BY **DAVID LAMB**

(HIM) COAT AND SHIRT, **POLO RALPH LAUREN**;
(HER) SHIRT AND JEANS, **POLO RALPH LAUREN**

LOCATION, **CHÂTEAU DE LA CHÈVRE D'OR**; (HIM) JACKET, SWEATER, PANTS AND SHOES, **BOSS**; (HER) SHIRT, SKIRT, AND SHOES, **BOSS**

(HIM) JACKET, SHIRT, AND PANTS, **DOLCE & GABBANA**; SHOES, **SALVATORE FERRAGAMO** SUNGLASSES, **RAY-BAN**; (HER) DRESS AND PURSE, **DOLCE & GABBANA**; SUNGLASSES, **PAUL SMITH**

FERRARI

JACKET, SWEATER, AND PANTS, **SALVATORE FERRAGAMO**; SUNGLASSES, **RAY-BAN**

COAT, SHIRT, AND PANTS,
EMPORIO ARMANI

THIS PAGE:
(HIM) JACKET, **BURBERRY PRORSUM**. SWEATER, **JOHN SMEDLEY**;
(HER) COAT, **BURBERRY PRORSUM**.

OPPOSITE PAGE:
(HIM) COAT AND SHIRT, **JOHN VARVATOS**;
(HER) SWEATER, **THEORY**

JACKET AND
DRESS, **COACH**;

OPPOSITE PAGE:
SWEATER, SHIRT,
AND PANTS, **PRADA**;
SHOES, **BURBERRY PRORSUM**

PEN OF THE MONTH

Infinium

The pen that writes
for a lifetime

Fisher Space Pen Australia
Sales Enquiries:
info@startekimports.com.au
03 5156 2298

Light + Power

Put some shine back into your night-time adventures with these LEDLENSER goodies. After all, why should you stop just because the sun called it quits?

▶ With a **LEDLENSER XEO**, night becomes your new frontier. Any low-visibility job, night-time operation, or after-dark activity is safer and easier when lit by 2000 powerful lumens. Using Smart Light Technology™, the independent focusing lenses, easily operated by the dynamic control pad, allow you to stay in control after dark and put clean, clear, and powerful light where you need it most. What's more, it's GoPro® Mount compatible.

RRP: $592.00

▼ The powerful, lightweight and rechargeable **SEO7R** headlamp is perfect for any outdoor activity. Featuring Ledlenser's OPTISENSE Technology™, it senses the light level in your surrounding area and adjusts brightness output automatically to save battery life. It also includes a high brightness up to 220 lumens, Advanced Focus System™, Smart Light Technology™, a glare-free red light to preserve night vision and tiltable head to direct the light where you need it.

RRP: $186.00

▼ This small, yet powerful **P3AFS** key ring flashlight achieves a sensational lighting performance of up to 25 lumens. It features Ledlenser's Advanced Focus System, for easy switching between a focussed, long distance list beam or a short distance, wide-area spotlight.

RRP: $39.50

▶ The **LEDLENSER P7R** is the brand new addition to the range and gives you the look, feel and features of their most popular flashlight model – the P7.2 – adding rechargeability for an even better lighting experience. Boasting a massive 1000 lumens brightness, optimised output with Smart Light Technology™ and the convenience of the Floating Charge System™, this takes performance to a new level.

RRP: $231.00

Australian Headquarters: 156 Jonson Street, Byron Bay NSW 2481 **Phone:** 02 6685 8833
Sydney Retail Store: 185 Campbell Street, Taylor Square, Sydney NSW 2010 **Phone:** 02 9360 2068

wickedweasel
barely covering girls since 1994

GAMES

THREE BIG BOPPERS BRING THE FUN TO A MONTH OF HEAVY GAMING

BY **CHRIS STEAD**

TOTAL WAR: WARHAMMER (PC)

If you have any interest in the tactics and strategy military conquest it doesn't get any better than the *Total War* series. For over 15 years the team at Creative Assembly has been honing its craft, and you'll be stunned by the depth in this series. It's effectively broken into two halves; on the campaign map, you are moving and positioning troops across the world in a turn-based fashion, while engaging with the duties of leader (diplomacy, espionage, resource management and expansion). However, when a battle begins, you zoom into the action and control thousands of troops in real-time, moving them into place, using the environment to your advantage and countering enemy attacks. While previous entries have been focused on real military history, this time the Warhammer setting brings fantasy into play. This means flying units, magic and diverse units across four factions; Empire (humans), Greenskins, Dwarfs and Vampire Counts. It looks stunning, with incredible detail and hours of engaging gameplay for strategy fans.

MIRROR'S EDGE CATALYST

(PC, PS4, XBO)

We're incredibly thankful that EA did not give up on this series after the original's lacklustre sales, as it's quite brilliant. The stunning visual style and wonderful heroine, Faith, are irresistible, but it's the innovative gameplay that is well worth experiencing. Best described as a first-person platformer, you head through the city's streets, rooftops and buildings with parkour-like movements all from a first person view. Diving, rolling, wall-running, jumping, sneaking and fighting in fast-fluid movements is a thrill – plus now it unfolds in an open-world, allowing you to explore as you see fit. Combat, a small part of the fun in truth, has been overhauled with the clunky gun fights diminished and melee brought to the fore – a wise choice! This follow-up is a prequel, too, offering more backstory on why Faith decided to get involved in the revolution against the corporations that run the city. Don't miss it!

OVERWATCH (PC, XBO, PS4)

Despite the huge fame given to it by franchises like *Starcraft*, *Warcraft* and *Diablo*, developer Blizzard Entertainment hasn't made a new IP in 18-years. So that's one very good reason to checkout *Overwatch*, which also sees the studio experiment in the online FPS space for the very first time. There's an elaborate backstory about a future-Earth taken over by robots, and a team of heroes – called Overwatch – that saved the day, but were then turned on by the civilians under their protection. However, this is an online shooter in truth. The action is fast and frantic, focused in on 6v6 games, where each player controls a hero with unique abilities from one of four classes; Offensive, Defensive, Support or Tank. The variety in attacks and moves is incredible and ensure the game feels like nothing else out there. The maps are based on real-world locations, but the visuals are heavily stylised and there are three modes at launch. Excellent!

It Will Be Televised

FROM NEW FPS EXPERIENCE RISES FROM THE ASHES OF A CULT CLASSIC

GAME:
Homefront: The Revolution
FORMAT:
PS4, XBO, PC
DEVELOPER:
Dambuster Studios
OUT: May 20

Despite all the fanfare ahead of its launch, the mixed reaction to 2011's cinematic FPS *Homefront* – and the subsequent collapse of publisher THQ – did not bode well for a sequel. However, after being sold off twice in the last five years, the series has landed with publisher Deep Silver, and a new developer comprised of staff best known for creating the *Timesplitters* series. It's been a rocky road, but from over the bumps comes one of the surprise gameplay experiences of 2016.

Streets of Philadelphia

The original game followed a *Red Dawn*-like scenario whereby the Greater Korean Republic (GKR) had successfully invaded the USA, and the player led a fightback to turn the tide towards the locals. The sequel is set four years later in 2029, with the Americans now in control of the western states, and the GKR holed up in the East using Philadelphia as its base of operations. We join the action as the new Revolution's youngest member, Ethan "Birdy" Brady, and follow his attempts to help retake the famous city.

A Different Experience

The first game was very much modelled on *Call of Duty*'s mix of linear storytelling and setpiece moments, but this sequel is very different. Instead, it's an open-world shooter, where you are encouraged to explore and take side-missions when not following the story's core path. The city has been broken up into three zones; the inner Green region is like a fully-functioning city and where the GKR are strongest. The Yellow region is a slum, supressed under the iron fist of the invading forces and housing most of the survivors. The Red is the ruined outskirts destroyed in the war, where the Revolution is building its strength, but where people are shot on sight.

It makes for a visually diverse playground in which to hone your skills, whether you're on foot or in a vehicle. Scavenging for resources, recruiting revolutionaries and customising weapons play a large role in the action. You can ambush convoys and troops for fun, too, and there is good variety to be had in the side missions. For example, you might undertake an assassination, or sneak behind enemy lines to steal a drone, both of which require stealth and strategy over your classic firefights.

Fun with Friends.

There is a multiplayer mode, but it takes a different tact from the original. Existing as a completely different experience – with its own characters, weapon options and progression system – it offers four-player co-operative gameplay. It's designed to be tough, and a destination for fans after they have mastered the controls in the single player.

SHOULD YOU BUY IT?

With an engaging setting and a surprising mix of open-world gameplay and first-person shooting, this is well worth a look from the curious gamer seeking something different.

We're All Doomed

THE BIG BAD GRANDDADDY OF THE FIRST-PERSON SHOOTER GENRE IS BACK

GAME:
Doom
FORMAT:
PS4, XBO, PC
DEVELOPER:
id Software
OUT: Now

Before *Doom* came out, the first-person shooter was barely a thing. Afterwards, it was the biggest genre in video gaming and it hasn't wavered from that spot in the 23 years since. We have a lot to thank *Doom* for, but the series hasn't stopped giving yet. This is the fourth game in the series, but a reboot that sees veteran developer id Software go right back to the roots of the FPS genre. This is old-school gaming, delivered with all the modern trimmings.

Love Letter to the Nineties

A lengthy 13-hour single campaign meets space marines setting off to Mars where some dodgy experiments have opened up a portal to hell, causing demons at all levels of ugly to come pouring through. This is about running and gunning through swarms of enemies using a huge arsenal of fantastically fun weapons. Hiding behind cover trying to pick off head-shots and regenerate your health is not the go here. Using classic weapons like the super shotgun, chainsaw and BFG, you need to keep moving and keep firing, picking up health and swapping between weapons on the fly. The gameplay is slick, pounding along like a stressed heartrate and there's plenty of body parts flying as you explode beasts an unleash executions. You can add abilities to weapons and upgrade your suit, but this is still classic *Doom*.

Brutal Battles

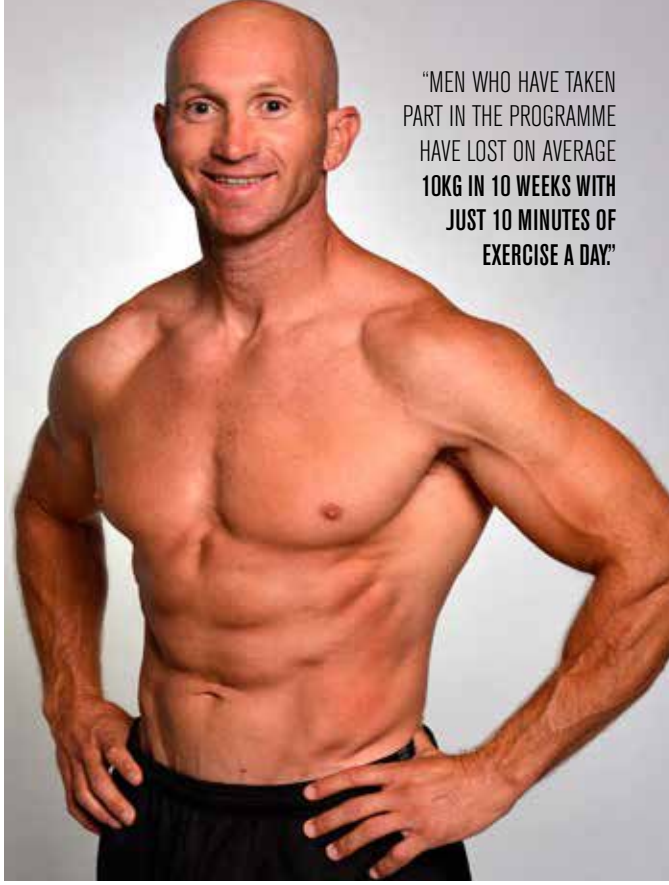
Naturally multiplayer is on offer and it translates that same intensity from the single player into claustrophobic arena combat against human opponents. From the classic four-player deathmatch through a diverse catalogue of game types – such as Domination, Warpath, Freeze Tag and Clan Arena – there's plenty to chew on. The Pentagram power-up is a game-changer, too, allowing a player to transform into and then fight as a demon. Recalling the original nineties games, a map editor is included, allowing creative types to build their own levels and game modes to share with the community. It's all a genuine throwback to classic FPS gameplay, yet a breath of fresh air in a genre now flooded with military precision shooters.

SHOULD YOU BUY IT?

Despite its decidedly old-school approach, *Doom* looks wonderful, sounds fantastic, and plays with such a frenetic pace you'll barely have time to breath. Welcome back!

Mad Dog & Glory

FORMER NRL STAR AND ENTREPRENEUR ADAM "MAD DOG" MACDOUGALL TELLS US HOW HE CREATED HIS HOME-GROWN MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR ONLINE HEALTH BUSINESS



"MEN WHO HAVE TAKEN PART IN THE PROGRAMME HAVE LOST ON AVERAGE **10KG IN 10 WEEKS WITH JUST 10 MINUTES OF EXERCISE A DAY.**"

For the non-NRL fans out there, tell us a bit about yourself, Adam.
Professional Rugby League was my life for over 16 years. I won two NRL premierships with the Newcastle Knights, as well as representing NSW and Australia many times. Being signed to a professional contract in my teens, my parents were adamant I needed to go to university to prepare for life off the field. I studied every year of my footy career including everything from economics to sports science and nutrition. After a short stint in the financial sector I decided my real passion was to help Aussies lead longer, healthier and happier lives. Three years ago I created *The Man Shake* then more recently, *The Man Challenge* which I'm proud to say has become one of the largest and fastest growing health businesses in Australia.

Why did you decide to start *The Man Shake* and *The Man Challenge* brands?
My best mate who was overweight. He kept saying he'd start to do something about it "tomorrow". Of course that never came. He died of a heart attack at just 44, leaving a young family behind. It made me determined not to let this happen to others. I wanted to help educate, motivate and remove the 'mystery' of healthy eating – cut through the industry BS – and make weight loss easy and achievable for everyday Aussies so they can live a full and happy life. Bottom line – I just can't stand by and watch as our nation gets fatter and sicker when I know we can do something about it without people having to starve themselves or spend countless hours slogging it out for hours in the gym like they have been misled to believe is the answer to being fit and healthy.

What do they involve?
The Man Shake is the healthiest, lowest sugar meal-in-a-shake on the market and designed for men to lose the beer gut without losing the beers. It's perfect for breakfast as it's high in protein and really sets you up for the day. We also have *The Man Fuel*, a ready-to-drink meal, and *The Man Bar*, a high protein health bar. They're available online at themanshake.com.au and *The Man Fuel* is now stocked in Caltex around Australia. *The Man Challenge* is a 10-week online food and exercise weight-loss programme which has helped thousands of men across the country lose weight. Men who have taken part in the programme have lost on average 10kg in 10 weeks with just 10 minutes of exercise a day and they've still got to enjoy a beer and a burger with the meal plan. The programme can be done in the comfort of your home as no gym or fancy equipment is required and you get to train with myself and other sporting celebrities on your mobile phone or iPad.

So, you've got some great ambassadors on board too?
Yes, some of the biggest names in international sport have got behind *The Man Challenge* including NRL's Brad Fittler, Danny Buderus, Steve Menzies, Billy Moore, Lote Tuiqiri and the Burgess boys. They all appear in fitness videos you train along to – there's nothing quite as motivating as trying to beat the number of reps they can do! AFL legend Paul Roos is an ambassador for both *The Man Shake* and *The Man Challenge*. Paul's an expert in improving men's physical and mental health and known for his unique coaching methods that include mental conditioning using tools such as meditation and visualisation. In *The Man Challenge*, Paul is the Mind Coach, helping blokes with the motivation and will to kick-start positive change in their life.

What's next up for you?
It's been a big start to the year already. I've been fortunate enough to have become the first player in NRL history to sponsor their former team as *The Man Shake* became the official sponsor of the Newcastle Knights for the 2016 season. It's been a great way to give back to the club that's given so much to me. I'm also appearing as a mentor in Australia's first rugby league reality series, *The NRL Rookie*, which will air on the Nine Network next month. And after last year's book *The Man Plan*, there's also a second book in the works called *The 10-Minute Man*. Everything I do really is around getting Aussie blokes fitter and happier. Because life's too short – it's time to start living your best life today. ■

CHALLENGE YOURSELF

After two hugely successful rounds where literally thousands of men have lost thousands of kilos, the next round of *The Man Challenge* starts on June 27. Registrations open May 30 at **THEMANCHALLENGE.COM.AU**

IT'S THE WORST GIG IN BASEBALL: NO STADIUM, NO FANS, NO HOME FIELD. WHO WOULD SIGN UP FOR THIS? THE GUYS WHO NEED IT MOST

NOBODY'S TEAM

BY **JASON FEIFER** PHOTOGRAPHED BY **JOÃO CANZIANI**

"LET'S GO! IT'S TIME TO F–KING get ready! Stop dicking around," pitching coach Billy Bryk yells, stomping into the Frontier Greys locker room. In an hour, his guys will be taking on the Slammers of Joliet, Illinois, a team named in honour of the local prison. They are professional baseball players, technically in the minor leagues, though on the lowest rung. And few are dressed. They're mostly all joking about a tray of... corn dogs? Nobody's sure what to call it. It's a mound of lukewarm hot dogs dumped atop a bed of what is surely canned corn, left on a table in their locker room. The Greys' pregame diet is entirely dependent upon the whims of the host team. A few guys had tried the grub and spat it out. At least one dog had gone sailing across the room. "You see our spread?" infielder Brandon Tierney asks Bryk. "Yeah, beautiful," the coach replies. "Corn fucking dogs. Who gives a fuck. You don't like it, play better."

Bryk's pregame routine amounts to striding around the room like a big curious dog, occasionally grabbing players by the shoulders to shake them loose. "Let's f–king go. Shane, how are you not f–king ready right now? You guys are f–king dead in here. It's like a f–king library. Put the music on. Let's go. It's game time."

Someone starts blasting Canaan Smith's "Love You Like That" from a portable speaker. The room springs into motion. That line of his – *You don't like it, play better* – might as well be the team's motto. Even before the corn dogs, there've been many opportunities to use it today. You don't like boarding a bus at 8:30 A.M. and driving four hours, with a game scheduled that night? Play better. You don't like sleeping on the disgusting floor of that bus? Play better. You don't like that you're staying at the Motel 6? That you just put on the same jersey you've worn every game since the beginning of the season, because the Greys provide you with only one? That your jersey has a two-inch hole in it (which Tierney's does), or that the only pants you were given don't actually fit (as outfielder Ben Lodge's don't)? That while your last name is D'Alessandro – that would be Justin D'Alessandro, tomorrow's starting pitcher – your locker is labeled LESANDRO because whoever wrote it doesn't know you and doesn't really care?

When you play better, you'll play in a better ballpark, on a better team, in front of better crowds. You won't be here. That's the point. And it could happen anytime. A scout could be in the stands, watching tonight's game. Every day is an opportunity.

Bryk is the team's animator; he's amped up all the time. But its leader is manager Vinny Ganz, who might just have the hardest job in baseball. Unlike every team the Greys play – and unlike, in fact, every other professional baseball team in America – this one is homeless. The Greys do not play for a city. They have no stadium. No fans. No T-shirts for sale. Their logo is just a ball and two bats. Their name is so generic, they might as well be called the Team. And they are always the visitors, always in the away team's locker room – trekking hours by bus across the Midwest just to be booed by the home crowd in Traverse City, Michigan, or heckled in Florence, Kentucky.

Ganz had to call 400 men just to find the 24 willing to join this nomadic tribe. He'd call guys up and say, essentially, Yeah: This sounds terrible. You work four months, live in motels and occasionally a local volunteer's basement, and earn $3,500 total, on average, for your trouble. But there are scouts in the stands – the magical men, the wandering eyes of major league teams, who will watch you play. They won't see you if you're sitting on your arse, which is what you're doing now. So come chase the dream.

This pitch works on a particular kind of player: "It gets hungry guys," Ganz says. "It gets guys that'll run through a wall for you." Guys so desperate to play the game of baseball that they'll put up with anything. Tierney played ball throughout college, then couldn't find a pro team to take him; now he's the

Greys' leading hitter. D'Alessandro spent three seasons with the Toronto Blue Jays' minor league teams. When the Jays dumped him, he tried to leave baseball. "It hit me hard: I really miss the game," he says. "I need to be playing." Outfielder Shane Brown had made it all the way up to Double A, two steps away from the majors, before getting cut. He spent all of last year hunting for a second chance while working as a substitute P.E. teacher in Orlando.

In exchange for this chance, they spend most of their time on a bus, sometimes for eight hours at a stretch – crisscrossing the Midwest from Ohio to Michigan to western Pennsylvania, standing around in hotel lobbies with their pillows when rooms aren't ready, sleeping within earshot of a highway and playing a game hours later. It gives them time to think, to ruminate about the almost laughably glamour-free version of the national pastime that is their lot. "Baseball's about failure," Brown says, voicing an old cliché that he's taken to heart. "It really is. Hit three out of 10, and you're a Hall of Famer. So you're failing all those other times." And the real point is to keep getting up to bat, because one of these times, you're going to connect and start heading for home.

Ganz knows this himself – and his story is the greatest sales pitch he has: His own playing dreams were sidelined by injuries, causing him to grow a little belly. Now he's 27, a habitual tobacco spitter, and hoarse from managing 24 men's needs. He doesn't require luxuries; he calls any beer more sophisticated than Budweiser a "milk shake," too thick for his taste. He wants one thing, really: to coach. In the majors.

"I'm trying to get out as much as every single one of them," he says.

Nobody wants to be here. Which is why they're all here.

BASEBALL IS A straightforward game, but it is a complex, multitiered business. At the tip-top – with the Yankees, the Red Sox, everything a casual fan knows – is Major League Baseball. Down the line are six other leagues that the MLB uses as a farm system, each made up of teams affiliated with one of the top franchises. Say that you, like Brown, began your pro career by being drafted by the Yankees in the 23rd round. Congrats! Guys from the first round are signing multimillion-dollar deals, and you're off to the Staten Island Yankees, in what's known as Short Season Single A. Do well and you'll be promoted upward to Single A. And so on.

This is known as the affiliate system. (Fans tend to call it the minor leagues, a generic term.) And when anyone on the Greys talks about getting out, of building toward their dreams, they're talking about going here – to the affiliates. You hear the term constantly among these guys. Some have never seen this promised land; others fought their way in only to find themselves cast out and desperate to return.

The Greys are something else entirely: independent baseball. Spread out across the country, independent leagues – that is, leagues with no formal ties to the MLB – carry on as self-contained baseball ecosystems, hosting their own all-star games, their own playoffs, crowning their own champions. One of the oldest indies in operation is the Frontier League, which began in 1993. And when a player joins, its commissioner, Bill Lee, will tell him this: "You're welcome to stay as long as you want, but get the f–k out." In part, he's speaking to their passion – he knows they'd rather be in the affiliates. But he's also being economical. The Frontier League positions itself as the place for the youngest, most determined guys – who, incidentally, are willing to play for the least amount of money.

The Greys, who have often been the Frontier League's worst team, shouldn't really exist at all. In 2012, the Frontier League expanded from 12 to 14 teams. But midway into that season, the owner of one of those new teams, the London Rippers of Ontario, ran into financial trouble and could no longer fund his new plaything. The Rippers disbanded, leaving a gaping hole in every other team's schedule. So the league funded the former Rippers on a shoestring to make sure the rest of the league functioned normally. The team would haunt the Midwest in a sort of baseball purgatory. The lowest of the low. It was rechristened the Greys. That's the colour of baseball's traditional away uniforms, but it also – appropriately, perhaps cruelly–denotes a lack of identity. The colour of nothingness, of invisibility, of something that's neither this nor that.

Anyone in the Midwest want a baseball team? Because the Frontier Greys would love a permanent home. It's been three years. In the meantime, its guys are on the road.

BELOW: Team manager Vinny Ganz at his temporary office in the away-team locker room OPPOSITE PAGE: Greys infielder Scott Carcaise after a bad at-bat

BEFORE THEIR GAME against the Slammers, Tierney and Lodge are standing around, comparing notes on their pre-Greys careers. "As a teacher, I was making $1,555 a week," Lodge says. He's from Australia; last year he played in a league there before coming to America to take a shot at the affiliates.

"I was waiting tables. I was at, like, the No. 1 Mexican restaurant in Texas, and we were pulling in $260, maybe $520 a night in tips," Tierney says. "Straight cash."

Now both are making $195 a week before taxes. They shake their heads. What the hell are they doing here? "We have to keep telling ourselves – love the game, love the game," Lodge says, and laughs, as the two walk back to the locker room.

They're here for a reason, and that reason makes for an unusually deep bond. They talk a lot of baseball – watch it in the hotel rooms, drive to major league stadiums on their off days to sit in the stands. But that's not all they think about. It's a bus full of dudes in their 20s, after all, rolling through a landscape of bars and casinos. The team calls itself the Tinderwolves, for the guys' penchant for swiping right on the local talent in the towns they're rolling up to.

"You gotta go plus-two on the road," says pitcher and team Tinder leader Kyle Bogese, meaning that a girl he'd normally rank a 6 is a road 8. "And we're always on the road." He offers the hottest prospects tickets to the game. That's a near-guaranteed score.

But temporary groupies aside, the guys aren't bothered by a lack of fans. Infielder Francisco Rosario knows the downside of affection: He made it to High Single A with the Yankees, a step below Double A but good enough to attract hangers-on, especially back home in the Dominican Republic. Girls inviting him to parties. Guys buying his meals. "You feel like you're important," he says, "but you haven't made it yet." It went to his head. When his affiliate team decreased his playing time, he copped an attitude. Then they cut him, and poof: The hangers-on disappeared, along with his inflated sense of self-worth.

He's better off. "One of the biggest good things that happened in my life was that the Yankees released me," he says. "Here, I do the best I can, and I'm focused every day. Everything is better now. My body, my mind. Everything."

When game time comes – the first in a three-day series against the Slammers – the Greys are suited up and stroll out into a beautiful, though very small, ballpark. Entire sections are empty. And between innings, instead of sponsoring the usual T-shirt toss, a local grocery store has stadium staff toss bags of hamburger buns into the crowd. It's like Soviet Russia. The place holds a little more than 6,000, one-fifth the size of MLB's smallest ballpark, the Tampa Bay Rays'. Tonight, only 2,176 fans are here. Then again, 2,176 people paying to watch you do the thing you love most? That is pretty cool. That is an honor. Walk out onto that ball field with them, as I did, and you can understand why the Greys want this, and more.

In the dugout, before the first pitch, guys are already spitting all over the place. "Man, why do I always have to poop before a game?" infielder Scott Carcaise announces to laughter. In the fifth inning, with the game tied 1-1, I wander up to find three Greys pitchers in the stands. When they're not playing, some are dispatched up here to track how their opponents are swinging. The home plate ump blows a call, and the guys groan. "The umpires in this league, they're so inconsistent," D'Alessandro says. "You always see something ridiculous."

"Who are the umps?" I ask. "Just some locals?"

"No, they're guys trying to get out, like us."

It might happen. The pitchers have already scanned the crowd and spotted a scout. He's hard to miss – the middle-aged guy in the baseball cap, sitting directly behind home plate, holding a radar gun and tapping the details of every pitch and swing into an iPad.

Between innings, I sit down in the empty row behind him. "Are you a scout?" I ask dumbly, slightly intimidated by the power he holds to shape a player's destiny.

"I am," he says.

His name is Chris Colwell, and he's with the Philadelphia Phillies. He's flagged three Frontier League players so far this season – none from the Greys,

but there is a Greys pitcher he thinks has promise. Before he makes his decision, though, he wants to see the guy throw some more. Is his word enough to change that pitcher's life?

"If I see a player that I feel maybe should get a shot at affiliated, I send in a report to the full-time scout for the Phillies," he says. "And then it's up to him to come out here and take a look himself."

Oh. So if he's not the full-time scout, then...?

"I'm an associate scout. Associate means volunteer."

Colwell, the owner of a local printing business, has coached youth and amateur baseball for 26 years. He loves the game. He is devoted to it. And he's got larger ambitions of his own. "I tell the players, we've both got the same goal," he says. "You want to get into affiliated. At some point, I do, too. We're chasing the same thing."

Even the scouts. Even the scouts.

The Slammers win the game 2-1, and the Greys march back in silence to the away team's locker room. Nearby, in a bare coach's room that's maybe 12 by 12 feet, Bryk stares at his locker and Ganz stares at his desk. "We'll get back after it tomorrow," Ganz says. "Day in and day out, every inning, they battle. That's all I ask them to do."

I ask Bryk about his role as team cheerleader. He kept at it throughout the game, yelling in the dugout. "They need this more than any team that I've ever been with," Bryk says. His dad is a scout for the Arizona Diamondbacks; he, too, would like to reach the majors one day. "This is a grinding time. There's been times that I've heard guys fighting, and I go in and say, 'Hey, you guys want to f'n fight somebody? The guys you want to fight are on the other team. If we're going to fight each other, we're not going to survive.'"

Tonight, nobody is fighting. The players line up in silence around a table in the middle of their lockers, filling plates with yet another stadium-provided meal. Tonight it's fried chicken, ziti, and broccoli. A rare night of good eating. A small victory.

PITCHER Tanner Roark remembers it. The tiny stadiums. The nowhere towns. The absolute, blind devotion to a goal. "You believe in yourself more than anybody believes in you," he says. "When you have that dream, that fire, that need to get out and play every day as hard as you can and keep giving everything you got, and keep working hard – it's one of those things that you have inside of you that's hard to get rid of." He had his own hardship. He played college ball at the University of Illinois but was cut in his junior year when he didn't meet the minimum GPA. A Frontier League coach invited him onto the team. Roark went. He had no better plan.

So, what are the odds? This striving, this dreaming, men wedded to the rare privilege of playing a game for a living – it's all very warm and hopeful, but at some point they must reckon with cold numbers: Last year, across the league, an average of about five guys per team were called up to the affiliates. That's about 20 percent. The vast majority don't rise past Single A. Across the affiliate system this season, 75 guys playing were from the Frontier League.

But some go higher. Since the league began in 1993, thousands of players have put on a Frontier uniform. Twenty-seven have made it all the way to the top, to the big game. Four are there right now.

Roark believed he'd be one of them. Not that it matters – they all believe it. They have to. But unlike most, he kept rising, to coaches who saw his talent and helped him refine it. For eight years, he fought his way up. Then he got an offer, in 2013, to join the Washington Nationals. For a month, he sat in a major league bullpen, waiting. And one day the call came. Coach said it was his turn.

He doesn't remember much about that day. He was too anxious. A teammate gave him two bits of advice: Act like you belong out there, and before you throw your first pitch, look around for a moment. Appreciate it. And so Roark did. The batter stepped up. "I took a deep breath," he says, "and went right after him."

And that first pitch he threw as a Major League Baseball player, the man he always wanted to become?

"I think it was a ball," he says, and laughs. "Yeah, I'm pretty sure it was a ball." Roark is still with the Nationals. It happens.

YOU KNOW WHAT doesn't happen in the major leagues? Waking up at 8 A.M., boarding the bus by 8:30 A.M., and arriving at the stadium shortly after to play a game for an audience of children at 10 A.M. But that's independent ball;

"WHEN YOU HAVE THAT DREAM, THAT FIRE, THAT NEED TO GET OUT AND PLAY, THAT'S HARD TO GET RID OF."

ABOVE: Some Greys players walk across Silver Cross Field, home of the Joliet Slammers OPPOSITE PAGE: Pitcher Justin D'Alessandro winds up

summer camps are reliable ticket buyers, so some games happen early. The morning after their 2-1 loss, the Greys are not in the mood for a chorus of *SpongeBob SquarePants* songs from the stands. "It's really f–king annoying," says pitcher Colin Feldtman, as the team's fresh-out-of-college trainer stretches him. "Emphasis on annoying."

There's a pan of scrambled eggs in the locker room, but it's empty before everyone gets a plate. One hungry player angrily tosses the tray into the showers. Not long after, I find Ganz and infielder Carcaise sniping at each other in the dugout. "Yesterday you f–ked it up, you looked like dog shit," Ganz yells. "Then release me!" Carcaise snaps back. Both will later say that this is how they goof around – that it's about catharsis, breaking the tension.

But when Carcaise walks off, Ganz sits down alone in the dugout, looking tired. "If you don't like 10 A.M. games, play better," he scolds his players in absentia. Nobody's around. "If you don't like only having eggs for half a team, play better."

The hardest part of being on the Greys isn't the travel, or the low pay, or the food. It's this – the relentlessness. "You don't have a home where you can get away," Brown says. When he was in Double A, he could retreat to his private apartment and decompress after a bad game. But the Greys players are almost always together, in a hotel or on the bus. "Even when you're away from the field now, you can't get away."

Then the game starts, and the guys become a team again. They cheer each other from the dugout. Bryk is amping up his players. "Go to the beach!" he keeps yelling, because apparently home-run balls land in some sand patch past the outfield wall. By the third inning, the score is 4-1, Greys. The mood in the dugout lightens. Guys are having fun again. On the road, this is the only real medicine they have: Good baseball cures bad baseball.

The Greys win, 10-1. The children in the stands do not care. The players do not care that the children do not care.

Back to the locker room. There's music, and guys making plans. It's barely past noon, and their workday is done. Some have dates lined up. Some will just go eat something decent. It's been a good morning, but "good" is relative. There was no scout in the stands among those kids, not even a volunteer associate scout. If a call is going to come from an affiliate team, telling one guy to come join them, that his hard work is finally paying off, it won't happen today.

"You know," Ganz says, "I'd trade a championship in a day to get the whole team out of here. If it meant losing my season because I lost half my best players or all my best players, that would be a great season for me."

Tomorrow the Greys play the Slammers for a third time, and then it's off to Normal, Illinois – the Greys in Normal, an all-star pairing of blandness – for three games against a team called the CornBelters. The Greys will take a lead in the fifth inning of that first game, never give it up, and win 6-5. They'll lose the next one. Then win the next. And then it's back on the bus to do it again somewhere else. ■

MONTE CARLO

BY **JACQUELINE MIRÓ** PHOTOGRAPHED BY **BILL PHELPS**

The Odeon Tower's $400 million penthouse

The facts and figures on one of the most luxurious destinations on the French Riviera

Where is Monaco located?
Monaco is located in Western Europe, along the Mediterranean coast of France.

How large is Monaco?
Monaco is only three-quarters of a square mile, making it the second smallest sovereign nation in the world, after Vatican City.

What is the climate like in Monaco?
It has a mild climate, with around 300 days of sunshine a year.

How many people live in Monaco?
About 38,000, representing 120 nationalities.

How many of these people are citizens (referred to as Monégasque)?
About 8,300 of the 38,000 residents are citizens.

What is the per capita income?
The average Monaco resident averages about $244,000 a year, making it the country with the highest income per capita in the world, according to the United Nations.

Is Monaco a tax haven?
Contrary to erroneous reports, one cannot conceal bank accounts in Monaco. But it is a tax-friendly place for residents. Monaco derives half of its public revenue from a value-added tax (VAT) on commercial transactions. Furthermore, corporations face a 33 percent tax on profits – unless the business can prove that three-quarters of the company's revenue is generated within the confines of the principality.

Should one establish a business here?
Monaco is a secure place for employees, centrality in the European region, proximity to an international airport, excellent climate, and a favorable tax system. Monaco has a moderate tax system, which means no income tax (except for French and American residents, who still pay their home country taxes); no property tax; no business taxes; and no tax on profits for companies if more than 75 percent of their revenue is made in the principality.

What is the life expectancy of a Monaco resident?
With a life expectancy of almost 90 years, the population of Monaco has the world's longest life span.

What is the unemployment rate?
Much of the workforce arrives from France and Italy but leaves on a daily basis, and most residents are employed or retired. Consequently, virtually no unemployment exists in Monaco.

What is the country's minimum wage per hour?
The minimum wage is 9.43 euros, or $13.77, compared to a federal minimum wage of $17.29 in Australia. Monaco also includes five percent extra to compensate for travel costs incurred by the three-quarters of the workforce who travel to Monaco from France and Italy.

Who is in charge of Monaco?
Monaco is a constitutional monarchy. His Highness Prince Albert II has executive power.

How do you become a citizen of Monaco?
There are three ways of becoming a Monégasque: The first is by birth, with one of the two parents being a citizen. The second is by marriage; after 10 years of marriage you can apply for citizenship. The third, and most rare, is by sovereign order, meaning that His Highness Prince Albert II can grant citizenship.

What is the price per square foot of residential real estate in Monte Carlo?
The price per square foot in Monte Carlo is $8,427, thereby making it the most expensive place in the world. The most expensive penthouse in the world was reportedly sold last year in Monte Carlo's new development, the Odeon Tower, for a reported $520 million. The second-most-expensive penthouse title belongs to London, with a $307 million one in Hyde Park. New York and Hong Kong compete for third.

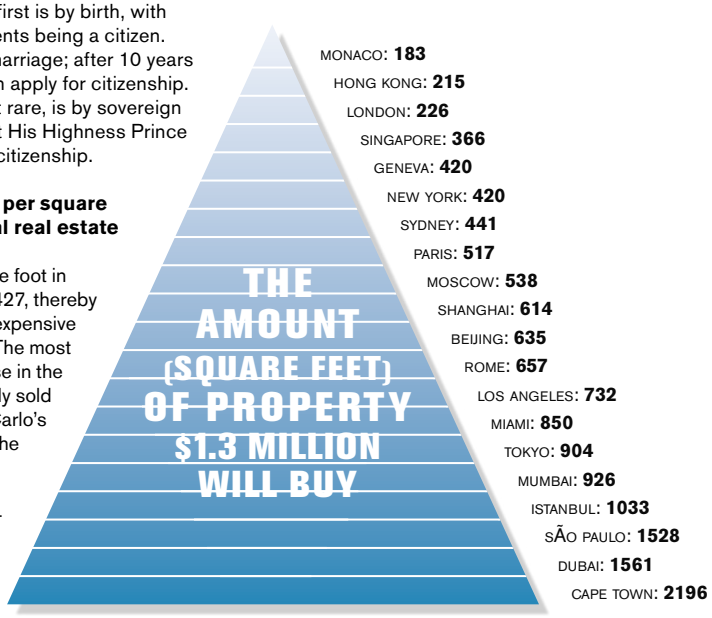
How many Monaco police officers work in the principality?
Monaco has the largest police force and police presence in the world on both a per-capita and a per-area basis. Monaco has one police officer for every 70 residents.

What is the currency?
The currency of Monaco – as in the rest of the European Union – is the euro.

In the event of war, who protects Monaco?
Should war break out, Monaco is protected by France's armed forces.

What is the strength of Monaco's economy?
It's a financial hub. It has zero tax on personal income or savings. It also has commercial activity such as services, tourism, and real estate.

Why become a resident?
If you take into account the weather, the quality of life, the safety, and the lengthy life expectancy, plus the lack of income or real estate taxes, and you can afford Monaco, why not become a resident?



Monaco is a beacon of intrigue that will draw you in like the green light that initially drew Jay Gatsby to Long Island Sound.

The French Riviera – a.k.a. Côte d'Azur, a name coined by French writer Stéphen Liégeard – runs along the Mediterranean coastline on the southeast corner of France. The jewel in the crown of the French Riviera is the sovereign state of Monaco. The Principality of Monaco is one of the world's smallest independent states, second only to Vatican City. It is separated into four quarters, the most famous of which is Monte Carlo, founded in 1866 and named after then-ruling Prince Charles III. It's been ruled by the Grimaldi family since 1297. Monaco is a principality governed under a form of constitutional monarchy, with Prince Albert II as head of state. In other words, he's the authoritative man in charge.

To think that in less than a single square mile, one can find about 120 nationalities as residents – that makes Monaco the most cosmopolitan place on the planet. Of course, the citizens of Monaco, referred to as Monégasque, number around 8,000 out of nearly 36,000 residents.

Per capita income is the highest in the world, at $244,000. And figure this: Life expectancy is also the highest in the world, at 90 years of age. And who says wealth isn't health?!

Monaco is a must-see place, and the more you explore, the more culture and intrigue you can find. Monte Carlo plays host to some of the world's most famous sporting events. The Monaco Grand Prix is the jewel of the Formula 1 crown. Furthermore, racing enthusiasts will also be attracted to the historic Monte Carlo Rally, in which car manufacturers take to the track showcasing clever automotive innovations.

Monaco has many famed, inspired buildings, such as the Opéra de Monte-Carlo, designed by noted architect Charles Garnier, and the

Oceanographic Museum, once directed by the brilliant mariner Jacques Cousteau. In addition to its world-class offerings, Monaco is an idyllic destination for sailing aficionados. With its dramatic cliffs hovering over majestic, grandiose yachts, Monaco boasts arguably one of the most aesthetic – and prosperous – harbours in the world.

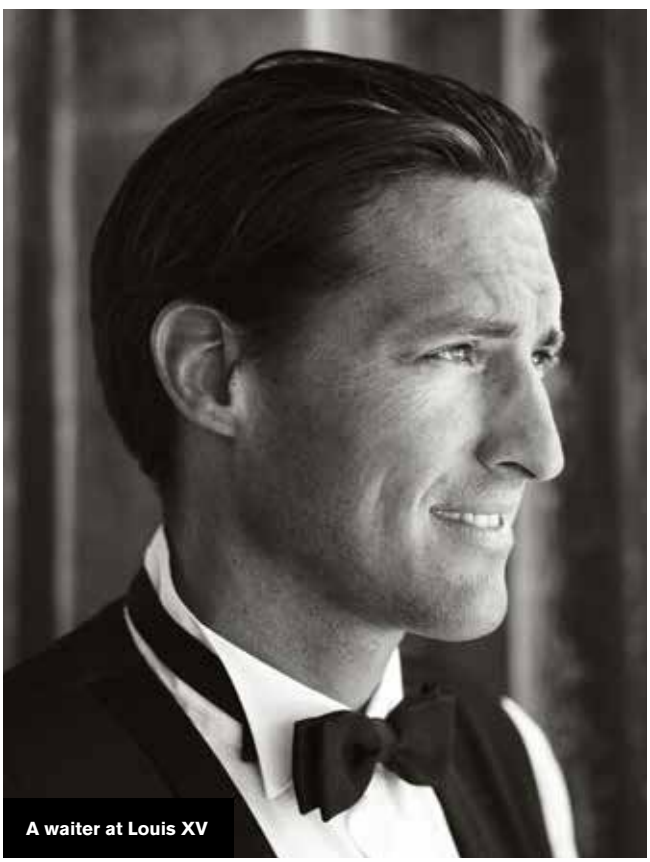
The living experience in Monaco is unlike anything, anywhere else! Visitors to Monte Carlo will quickly discover that the domain is one of the cleanest and safest places he or she will visit, primarily as a result of heavily policed streets. No wonder that in Monaco you will find the best wheels on Earth: Bugattis, Rolls-Royces, Ferraris, Koenigseggs. There is one police officer per 70 residents. And each is a model police officer: not strict if you're having a good time, such as your lifting two girlfriends into the two-seater. But then they will rightly give you a hard time if you commit a faux pas such as failing to give the right of way to a pedestrian.

Adjacent to the Casino is the Hôtel de Paris, with 187 rooms and 75 suites, offering sea views or amazing scenes on the Plaza. In the past few years, Monte Carlo has doubled down on its own brand of extravagance by modernising the casino and truly upping the ante on luxury to court and attract today's generation of international travelers. Two large-scale construction programs – emblematic of Monaco's grand vision for the future – are under way: a new complex that will include the revitalisation of the Hôtel de Paris (which will remain open throughout the renovation) and a dual building project that will launch an entirely new creative residential as well as shopping quarter. In the words of Luca Allegri, SBM's managing director: "Our current renovation projects include a metamorphosis of the Hôtel de Paris. This will bring a new feel to the whole of the Monte Carlo area and eventually improve its overall offering of residences, shopping spaces, gardens, and venues for artistic events as well as meetings, when fully completed in 2018."

"THE LIVING EXPERIENCE IN MONACO **IS UNLIKE ANYTHING, ANYWHERE ELSE!"**

Business opportunities are also present in that the government is swift to accommodate and attract entrepreneurs. Monaco is a hub of important financial and international activity. The financial institutions hold an estimated $1 trillion in total deposits.

The finest in Monaco and the Riviera is no longer in the past but instead in the exceptional. ■



A waiter at Louis XV

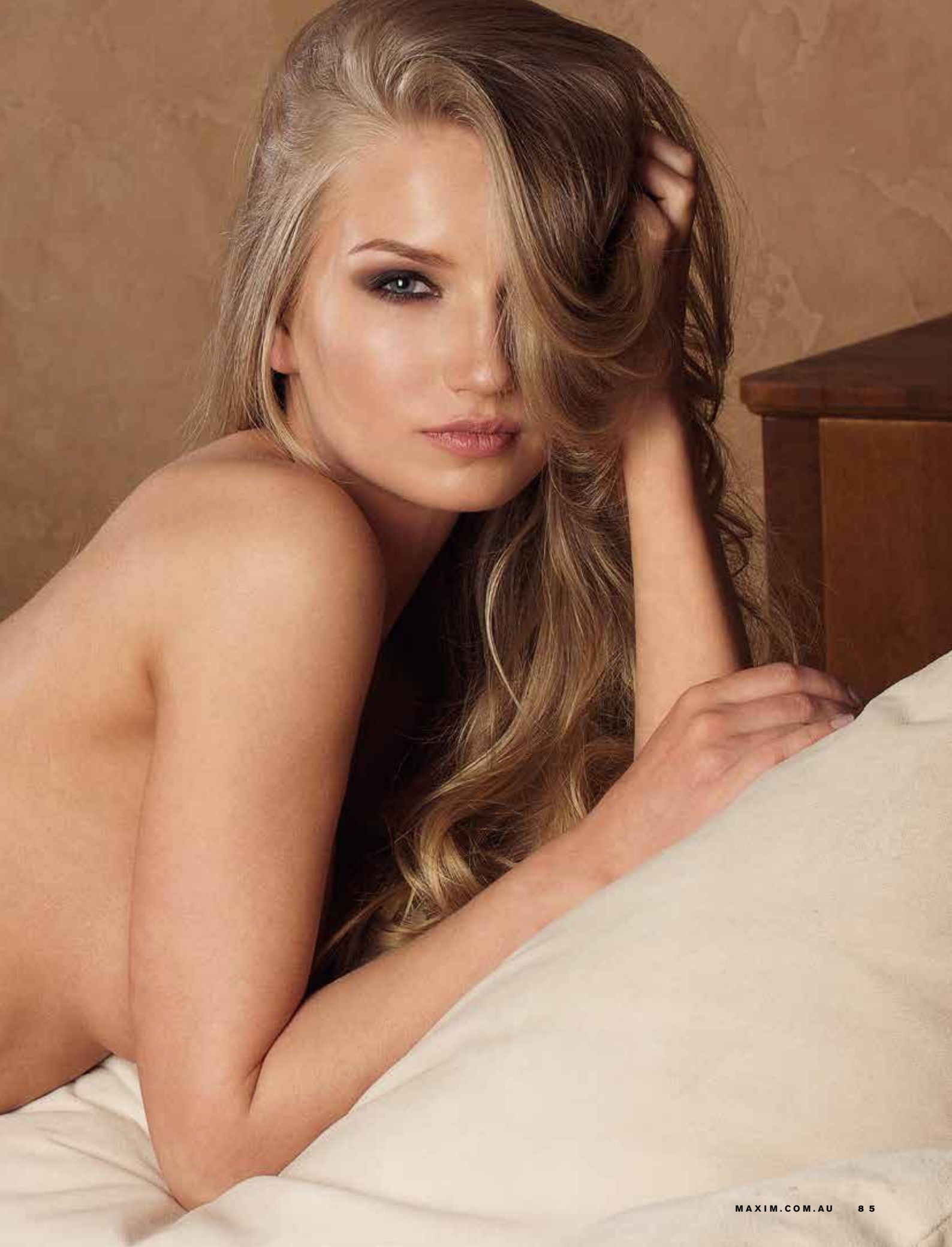
The Monte Carlo Casino

FROM RUSSIA

PHOTOGRAPHED BY **SERGEY KOROLKOV / SERGEYKOROLKOV.COM**

WITH LOVE

INTRODUCING SAINT PETERSBURG BEAUTY EKATERINA STRELKOVA



YOU GO BY EITHER EKATERINA, KATE OR KATYA. WHICH DO YOU PREFER TO BE CALLED?
Actually, I like my full name – Ekaterina, it's a very beautiful and strong name, but my friends and family call me Katya.

WHAT DO YOU LOVE MOST ABOUT YOUR *MAXIM* SHOOT?
The photographer, Sergey Korolkov, allowed me to style it and after a lot of thought this mix of arty yet classic and casual style came to me. I really like the straight pants, suspenders and jackets look.

WHAT IS THE BEST AND WORST THING ABOUT BEING A MODEL?
The best thing is meeting a lot of people, seeing new places and also learning about this profession every day. The downside is that it is actually a hard job – you're always running around from one shoot to another, there's early morning starts and posing isn't easy.

IF YOU WEREN'T MODELLING WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?
I would be working as a project engineer because I'm studying Urban Projections. For now, I'm working in a really nice restaurant as a head manager.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE NOT MODELLING, STUDYING OR MANAGING AN EATERY?
Watching movies, dancing, going out with friends... St. Petersburg is a very beautiful city so each time I go out I discover it in a new way.

WHAT'S ONE THING YOU'D CHANGE ABOUT THE WORLD?
Not so much change but I would leave the world without boundaries. It would be easy for everybody to travel, study and live where they want.

IF YOU COULD LIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, WHERE WOULD IT BE?
On an island somewhere in the ocean.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO AUSTRALIA?
Unfortunately not, but I definitely would love to visit your wonderful country.

WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORD 'AUSTRALIA'?
Opera, Sydney, wine, kangaroos and a huge island! Obviously it's a continent but it's different part of the world. I know a lot about Australia because I like geography and the history of different countries. But yes, the most interesting is still kangaroos... oh, and Hugh Jackman!

SPEAKING OF MEN, WHAT'S THE BEST WAY FOR ONE TO STEAL YOUR HEART?
A man must be sincere and real. If he wants my heart he must also be serious about it because my heart is difficult to find your way to.

WHAT DO YOU FIND SEXY ABOUT A MAN?
His scent, tone of voice and strong male hands – it's my weakness!

IF YOU TOOK *MAXIM* ON A DATE, WHERE WOULD WE GO?
Paris because it is the city of love and romance. We'd walk the many bridges and all night under the summer rain and cuddle. It's very cute and romantic.

AND A LOT OF WALKING BY THE SOUNDS OF IT. WOULD YOU KISS ON THE FIRST DATE?
No, I have never kissed a guy on the first date and i am not about to start now. A girl must keep some things special for a man and not reveal everything about herself right away.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN MISTAKEN FOR A FAMOUS PERSON?
Yes , I'm often told I look like model and actress Rosie Huntington-Whiteley.

DEFINITELY! IF YOU COULD SPEND A DAY WITH ANYONE IN THE WORLD, WHO WOULD IT BE?
Johnny Depp. He is a wonderful person and actor. I would love to get to know him personally.

AT BEDTIME ARE YOU AN UNDIES, PJS OR COMMANDO KINDA GIRL?
I like to sleep in either underwear or tiny pyjamas. I don't like to sleep with a lot of clothing – it's not exactly comfortable.

WHAT'S THE BEST PIECE YOU'VE EVER BEEN GIVEN?
If you want to change the world, start with yourself.

WHAT'S NEXT IN YOUR CAREER?
I would like to achieve many heights in my career and improve my skills. Work more on myself, take my modelling forward and maybe star in a movie. ■

STATUS UPDATE

BORN:
March 10, 1996

HOMETOWN:
St. Petersburg, Russia

INSTAGRAM:
@strelkovakate

FAVOURITE...

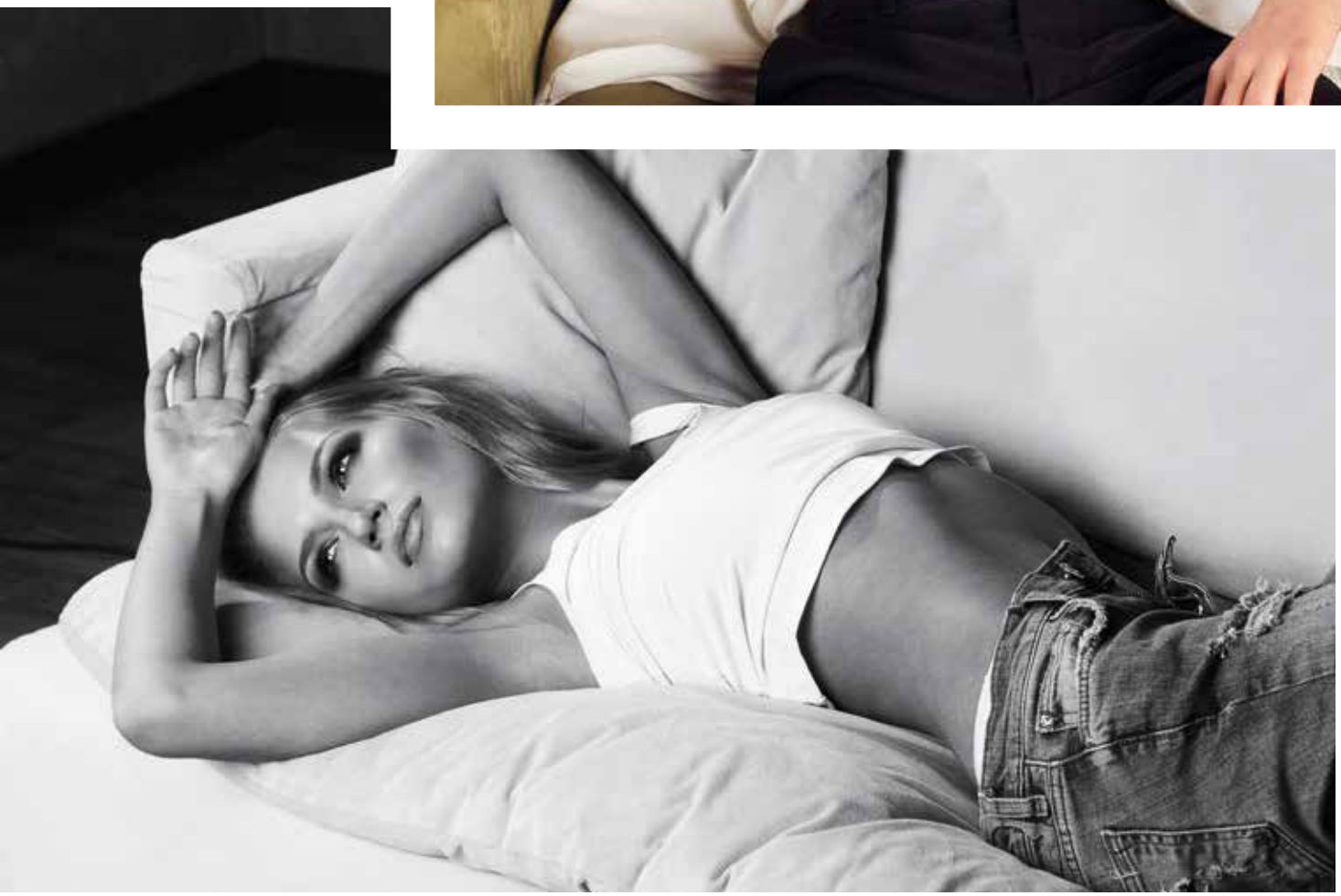
CAR:
Tesla

FOOD:
Marbled ribeye steak

MOVIE:
Pride & Prejudice

MUSIC:
Deep house

BOOKS:
Fahrenheit 451, *The Empire of the Angels* and *The Insulted and Injured*



FOOD RULES

THESE IDEAS WILL HELP YOU LOSE WEIGHT, BOOST MUSCLE AND GIVE YOUR IMMUNITY A SEVERELY-NEEDED KICK

EAT ONLY FOODS THAT ROT
The more processed a food is, the more nutrients it has had stripped out to prevent it rotting, which occurs when bacteria and other organisms feed on these nutrients. The end product therefore will have a longer shelf life but a lower nutritional value. Remember that real food is alive, so it will eventually die.

AVOID FOOD PRODUCTS THAT MAKE HEALTH CLAIMS FOR THEMSELVES
Sounds counterintuitive, right? But to carry a health claim the food must have packaging, so right off the bat it's more likely to be processed. The healthiest food in the supermarket – fresh produce – doesn't boast about how healthy it is because (a) it doesn't come packaged and (b) growers don't have the budget of big corporations.

AVOID FOOD PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN MORE THAN FIVE INGREDIENTS
The more ingredients in a packaged food, the more highly processed it is likely to be. Note that this doesn't apply to a recipe for a home-cooked meal, only prepackaged food products.

IF IT COMES FROM A PLANT, EAT IT. IF IT WAS MADE IN A PLANT, DON'T
It really is as simple as that. There's a reason why all the cuisines of the world still use fresh herbs and veggie sides.

AVOID INGREDIENTS THAT ARE NOT FOUND IN YOUR CUPBOARD
Ethoxylated diglycerides? Xanthan gum? Ammonium sulphate? You can't buy them at the greengrocer's. If you wouldn't cook with these "ingredients" yourself, why let others use them in food you're going to eat? These chemicals are used to keep food fresher for longer, and while they may or may not prove a health hazard, the simple fact that humans haven't been eating them for very long means they are best avoided.

EAT YOUR COLOURS
The colour of many vegetables reflects the different antioxidant phytochemicals they contain, such as anthocyanins, polyphenols, flavonoids and carotenoids. Many of these chemicals help protect against chronic diseases but each does so in a different way, so the best protection comes from a diet containing as many different colours as possible.

DON'T EAT ANYTHING YOUR GREAT-GRANNY WOULDN'T RECOGNISE AS FOOD
There are thousands of "foodish" products in supermarkets that our ancestors wouldn't recognise as food. They are processed in ways specifically designed to get us to buy and eat more by pressing our evolutionary buttons – our natural preference for sweet, salty and fatty foods. These tastes are hard to find in nature but cheap and easy in factories, which usually produce foods with low to no nutritional value.

SHOP AT THE ENDS OF THE SUPERMARKET AND NOT IN THE MIDDLE
Most supermarkets are laid out the same way: Processed foods dominate the centre aisles, while fresh produce, meat, fish and dairy line the walls. If you stick to the edges of the store you'll wind up with real food in your basket at the checkout.

IT'S NOT FOOD IF IT'S CALLED THE SAME NAME IN EVERY LANGUAGE
That means it is processed, and you could probably do without it.

EAT BREAKFAST
It sparks your metabolism. Try this, McChubby: Combine an egg white and a slice of ham or turkey on a whole grain muffin. Dash with Tabasco.

EAT WHAT YOU WANT. JUST LEAVE THE TABLE A LITTLE HUNGRY
For example, order the six-inch, not the foot-long; devour the hamburger, not the fries; inhale two slices of pizza, not four. Eat a plate of momos, not two samosas.

SKIP THE AERATED DRINK
Avoid soft drinks and limit juice. Drink water (a lot, eight glasses a day), coffee (cream is fine), and vodka (it has fewer calories than beer)... wait, we love beer.

SNACK OFTEN.
Gobble lots of nuts. (Read that however you like.) Plain almonds suck, so make protein yummy with baked or roasted almonds. After a workout, slip a nice fresh banana into your mouth. (Is it hot in here, or is it just us?) The potassium will help fight cramps. At night, drink milk: The protein-rich white stuff will make you feel full, preventing midnight binges. The Haldiram packet will understand.

Winter Workout

As the experts say, the best summer body is made in winter

It might be hard to stay motivated to exercise over winter when the days are shorter and it's dark and cold when you get out of bed but the cooler months are the best time to get active! There's no blistering sun, you won't be fighting crowds at the park, beach or gym and the cooler conditions give you an excuse to splurge on new exercise gear. As the experts say, the best summer body is made in winter! At Chemist Warehouse and My Chemist that's something we really believe in. Our simple tips will help you stay motivated and on track for a better body this winter.

1. HAVING A GOAL

To avoid the winter workout rut you need to stay focused on your end goal. It might be losing a few kilos, running a half marathon, training for an event or just fitting into a new suit. Decide what you want to achieve and what it's going to take to get there. Every single workout takes you closer.

2. WARM-UP IS CRUCIAL

Warming up helps prepare you for exercise both physically and mentally and is important in winter when cold temps make your muscles tight and your body more prone to injury. Try walking for five or ten minutes or stretching, if you are inside. INC Preworkout before you exercise can help you increase your mental focus, intensity and performance during a demanding training session.

3. CONSISTENCY NOT PERFECTION

Even for the fittest amongst us, training is a constant challenge. The important thing is to just keep going. If you miss a day, or a week, get right back out there, even if you decide to walk instead of run. The little things add up to big things.

4. MIX IT UP

Winter is the perfect time to try something new. Swap cycling for yoga or the gym for indoor rock climbing. Grab a buddy and make it fun. And don't forget team sports. Incidental exercise counts too. It might be wet but the dog still needs a walk, you still need groceries and you can always use the stairs instead of the lift at work.

5. THE RECOVERY

Cooling down is important, as is rewarding yourself for good behaviour! INC Eternal Mass is formulated to fuel the body and help it recover and rebuild after a workout or try an INC Shred Max Pro Bar for an easy and guilt free post workout snack.

It's easy to head to the man cave and think you've got months and months but summer will be here before you know it and you'll be busting out your boardies wishing you worked hard all winter long. So, make every day count this winter.

❶ INC Shred Max Pro Cookies and Cream Bar 60g $1.99 ❷ INC Shred Max Pro Chocolate Flavour Bar 60gm $1.99 ❸ INC Preworkout Tropical Flavour 500g $29.99 ❹ INC Eternal Mass Vanilla Flavour 2kg $49.99 ❺ INC Eternal Mass Chocolate Flavour 2kg $49.99

① ② ③ ④ ⑤

All products on this page are available from Chemist Warehouse *chemistwarehouse.com.au*

Budget Essentials

No need to fork out a fortune to look good. Check out these awesome buys, all under $30

① **Weleda Arnica Sports Shower Gel**, **$17.95**, *weleda.com.au*
Speaking of heavy lifting, if you've been exercising heaps or just have aching muscles, use this anti-inflammatory and uplifting shower gel in place of soap. You'll love it, and so will your weary muscles.

② **Anthony Mint & White Tea Lip Balm**, **$15**, *gentsac.com.au*
This all-natural lip balm will keep your pucker soft and smooth. With SPF 25, it's great for guys who work outdoors.

③ **Bossman Beard Comb with Handle**, **$20**, and **beard Comb**, **$18.95**, *gentsac.com.au*
Do we really need to explain why you need these? Facial hair is great, but not when it's a tangled, skanky mess.

④ **Cella Shave Cream**, **$14.95**, *gentsac.com.au*
For when you decide it's time to nix the facial hair, this little beauty foams up to a creamy lather, without drying out your skin. It also helps to prevent razor burn, ingrown hairs and bumps.

⑤ **Marvis Toothpaste**, **$12.95**, *gentsac.com.au*
These days, cleaning your teeth with a natural product is the only way to go. This selection in includes seven great flavours: Aquatic Mint, Jasmine Mint, Amarelli Liquorice Mint, Ginger Mint, Classic Strong Mint, Whitening Mint and Cinnamon Mint.

⑥ **Proraso Shave Foam**, **$14.95**, **Proraso Aftershave Lotion**, **$26.95**, **Proraso Shaving Cream Nourish**, **Proraso Eucalyptus Soap Bowl**, **$12.95**, **Proraso Shaving Cream Tube Shea Butter**, **$15.95**, and **Proraso Shaving Cream Tube Shea Butter**, **$15.95**, *gentsac.com.au*
This Italian shaving range will ensure the smoothest and sexiest shave around. Each product is packed with natural vegetable extracts, is free from artificial colours and has been dermatologically tested.

⑦ **The Aromatherapy Co Therapy Man Natural Soap Bar**, $16.95, *thearomatherapycompany.co.nz/*
This contains 100% natural essential oils of sandalwood and cypress, which will not only soften your skin as the soap washes away grimes, but its awesome smell will make you feel pretty good, too!

⑧ **The Aromatherapy Co Therapy Man Shaving Cream**, **$19.95**, *thearomatherapycompany.co.nz/*
Housed in a sleek silver tube, this 100% natural cream contains lemon, chamomile and rosemary to moisturise, soothe and protect your skin while you're shaving.

⑨ **Batiste Coloured Dry Shampoo** in Dark & Deep brown or Medium Brunette, **$12.95**, *batistehair.com.au*
We love this for two reasons – it means we can go an extra day or two without washing our hair and because it's tinted, it covers any thinning spots!

BY **SHONAGH WALKER** PHOTOGRAPHED BY **LUKE SHADDOCK**

SWEET DREAMS ARE MADE OF THESE

BY **ZEYNEP YENISEY**

WHAT YOUR SEX DREAMS REALLY SAY ABOUT YOUR LOVE LIFE

We've come a long way since the days of Freud somehow connecting all of our dreams to the Oedipus complex. But even if a pipe is just a pipe, our dreams still have lots to say about our sex lives and relationships. Kelly Sullivan Walden, author of the new book *The Love, Sex and Relationship Dream Dictionary*, tells us the meanings of some of the very common things we dream about every night, and one thing is for certain – all dreams lead to sex. We've chosen and paraphrased some of our favourites for you here. Sweet dreams, people...

MONEY
Having a shitload of cold, hard cash in your dream means you're feeling powerful and worthy of having an amazing love life. Dreaming that you're poor might mean the exact opposite – that you feel worthless, crappy, and not deserving of girlfriend grandeur. Does this mean money equals love and happiness? Possibly. Or maybe it's just literal and you're actually poor.

MUD
If you're in some sort of messy relationship, you might dream of mud, because mud is messy. Just like your relationship. Symbolically speaking, you might want to wash that dirt away by resolving the issues in your love life, particularly by working on your communication skills, since mud can symbolise a void in that department.

SPANKING
A BDSM-style dream that involves being spanked can mean three things: you've done something bad and want to be punished, you want to be dominated, or you just like kinky S&M sex. If you're the one doing the spanking, it might be because bae did something you found unsavory, and you want to address. Or again, maybe you just like kinky S&M sex. You would know.

MOTORCYCLES
Whether you're dreaming of riding a Harley off into the sunset, or dreaming of just sitting on it doing nothing, motorcycles in dream-land mean one thing – you want to break some relationship rules and do something crazy. Maybe you just need to go nuts and hook up with a random or two. Hell, have sex on top of a motorcycle while you're at it, since it's what inspired you in the first place.

GREEN
This is the most wholesome dream you can have, because seeing green in your dream indicates happiness and gratification with your love life. Hot new flame in your life? Green smoothies in your dream. Finally dumped your toxic girlfriend? Dreaming about Shrek. Just really happy for reasons unknown? Broccoli everywhere.

HEAT
Dreaming of heat or warmth is all about sexual energy, love, and passion. Maybe you have a lover who makes you feel all warm and cozy inside, or maybe they just make you en fuego in your pants. Either way, when you're hot for someone, you feel it in your dreams.

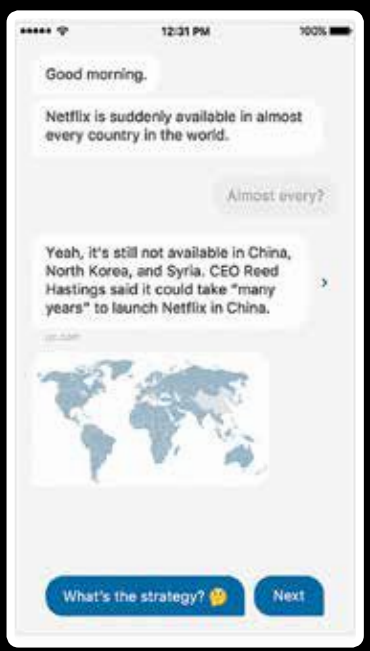
FOREPLAY
You know how foreplay is all about getting warmed up, taking your time, and enjoying your lover's body? And you know how most people half-arse foreplay? If you have a dream about foreplay, you're one of those half-arsers. Take your dream as a message from your subconscious telling you to slooow dooown and do sexy time the right way.

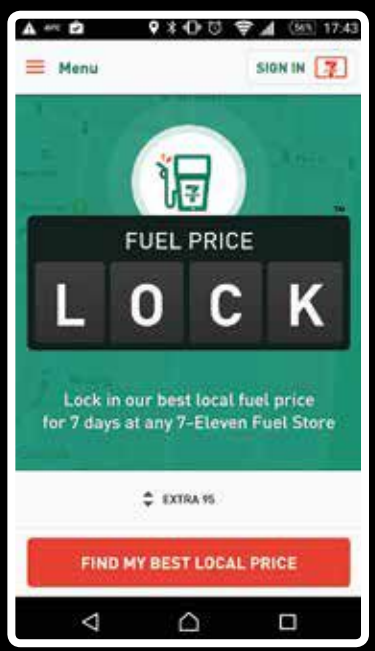
PURSUIT OF APPINESS

OUR APP EXPERT CHECKS OUT THIS MONTH'S BEST

BY **PAUL LIN**

PAUL LIN IS THE CEO OF EMPIRICAL WORKS, ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S LEADING ENTERPRISE MOBILITY COMPANIES. HE HAS BUILT APPS AND MOBILE SOLUTIONS FOR SOME OF THE WORLD'S BIGGEST BRANDS INCLUDING JIM BEAM, SKODA, LEVI'S, AND ENDEAVOUR ENERGY.
EMPIRICALWORKS.COM.AU


12:31 PM
100%
Good morning.
Netflix is suddenly available in almost every country in the world.
Almost every?
Yeah, it's still not available in China, North Korea, and Syria. CEO Reed Hastings said it could take "many years" to launch Netflix in China.
What's the strategy?
Next


17:43
Menu
SIGN IN
FUEL PRICE
L O C K
Lock in our best local fuel price for 7 days at any 7-Eleven Fuel Store
EXTRA 95
FIND MY BEST LOCAL PRICE

Work

Quartz

Is this the revolution in the news industry that we've been waiting hundred or so years for? While the delivery mechanism of news articles has evolved from paper to digital, the actual content and format has remained roughly the same since the invention of the printing press in the 17th century.

Quartz, a news provider, has completely turned the format upside down by treating news as a conversation. It looks and feels like an SMS messaging app – where a news "bot" converses with you about news that it thinks you may be interested in. Using short and sweet SMS conversational texts, it'll tell you what's happening – e.g. "Oil prices are set to increase", and you can talk back to it if you're interested in more information – e.g. "Why?" to continue the conversation. It's a natural way to find out more about the world, where you're not just reading the news, you're talking about it and learning from someone else, in an intuitive, interactive, "a little bit at a time" format.

Rest

Prune

Not all games need to be stressful and about killing or dying or making money. Prune is a peaceful, stress-free alternative to the blockbuster dominated gaming scene these days, where the design is so quiet, peaceful and zen that it's almost not a game.

A cross between an anti-stress tool and a game, Prune is described by its creator as a "love letter to trees" where you get to witness and cultivate the growth of a tree by trimming (pruning) the branches so it can grow taller and higher to reach sunlight. It may sound simple and at the same time suspiciously dull – after all, where is the fun in growing a tree and cutting off branches? However, once you load up the game you'll be taken in by the stylistic zen-like visuals and the calming, soothing music, plus the meditative experience of doing something so peaceful and rewarding.

It's a perfect relaxation tool after a busy day at work, if you're looking to simply tune out of life for a few minutes without getting back into a winning/losing mentality that you just got away from.

Other

7-Eleven Fuel

The ritual around getting the cheapest fuel you possibly can is a cultural tradition in Australia. As obtuse as it is, we gossip and trade insider tips and rumours with our mates about when and where we can get the cheapest petrol, and structure our week and travelling plans around grabbing that cheapest deal – even if it means we need to visit a distant suburban station at 11:30pm on a Tuesday night.

Fortunately, 7-Eleven recognises the absurdity of it all, and the extremes we go to grabbing cheap fuel. So, in the interests of transparency and making the most of a great marketing opportunity, they have created an app which takes the gossiping, rumouring and mysticism out of our weekly petrol hunting ritual. Using the app, not only can you find the cheapest petrol station near you (thus taking mystery of which suburbs to travel to out of the equation), you can also take the timing element out of it by locking in the current petrol price for the next seven days. It may have made our fuel-gathering exercise a lot less social and a lot less fun, but it's definitely more efficient.

QUENTIN TARANTINO

INTERVIEW BY **SANTI PINTADO**

The illustrious director, producer and alright actor discusses his final day on Earth. Spoiler alert – it involves Heaven, Hell, death and the afterlife

HOW DO YOU WANT TO GO?
Hmmm, that is an interesting question. Frankly, from this day forward, for the most part I'm playing with the casino's money. I've really done a lot of the things I've wanted to do and I think I've made a significant mark on cinema and culture and hopefully for quite a few decades to come. That's the hope. So, basically, I'd rather not die from tragic circumstances but at the same time I guess something that would take me out quickly. You know, you're alive one minute and dead the next. This would probably be best, especially compared to some long lingering illness.

DO YOU HAVE ANY DEATHBED CONFESSIONS?
Well, if it was a true deathbed confession I couldn't tell you.

WHAT'S YOUR LAST MEAL?
There's a soul food restaurant in Los Angeles called Roscoe's House of Chicken & Waffles. I'd get the Scoe's Special – it's fried chicken smothered in brown gravy and onions with hot waffles and you rub the butter on it then add the hot syrup – it's pretty delicious. However, I'm just too guilty to eat it. Usually it's so hard to ever really enjoy it because you feel so guilty of all the calories you're consuming, but I guess if I'm going to die and it's my last meal I could eat it completely guilt free. And I'm not saying this because you're Australian, but I'd be washing it all down with a can of VB beer.

ARE YOU GOING TO HEAVEN OR HELL AND WHY?
Well, in order to do that I'd have to believe in Heaven or Hell and I don't. I do believe in reincarnation so I'm sure I'll be coming back as something. Hopefully I'll have done a good job in this life so I have rewards in the next one.

WHAT'S THE GREATEST QUENTIN TARANTINO SCENE THAT NEVER MADE IT ON SCREEN?
Ooh, that's a really good question. There's two actually. In the first draft of *Kill Bill* there's a chapter I ended up taking out of the movie. It's called *Yuki's Revenge* and in it the character of Gogo had a twin sister and Gogo's sister Yuki came down to Los Angeles to find The Bride pretty much right after she killed Vernita. There's a whole chapter about The Bride fighting her and it's really terrific – I even just re-read it again the other day.

WHAT'S THE OTHER?
In the original incarnation of *Inglourious Basterds*, which was much bigger, there's a whole scene that takes place the day after the longest day where it's the black soldier's job to clean the bodies off the beach and it's the German prisoner's job to bury them. There's a big sequence about that. I might do it one of these days.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE QUENTIN TARANTINO MOVIE?
I like different ones for different reasons. It's hard not to choose *Reservoir Dogs* because it was the first one and because I did a good job on it I was able to make all the other ones. At the same time I think *Kill Bill* is probably my most cinematic and most visionary movie. At the same time *The Hateful Eight* and *Inglourious Basterds* are my most literary. So, you know, it all depends.

WHAT'S YOUR GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT DURING YOUR TIME ON EARTH?
Hmmm… well, I'm still really proud of having won The Palme d'Or for *Pulp Fiction* at the Cannes Film Festival back in 1994. I'm not sure if it's my greatest achievement because I guess the actual work is the achievement, but as far as a career marker that's a very good trophy.

WHAT ARE YOUR FRIENDS SAYING OVER YOUR CASKET?
Hopefully they're saying, "Quentin did what he set out to do."

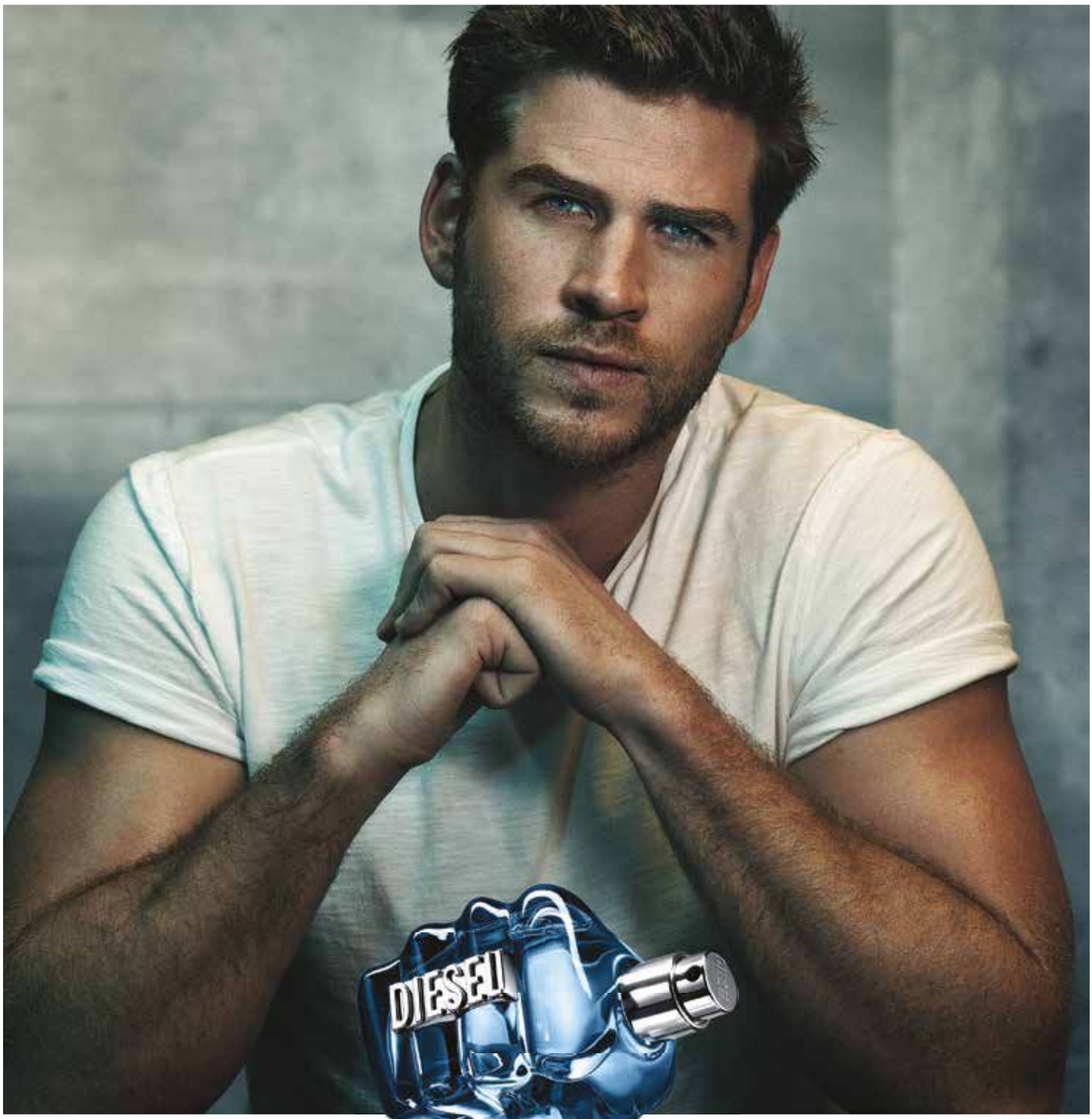
FINALLY, WHAT'S WRITTEN ON YOUR TOMBSTONE?
I'm sticking with that statement – "He did what he set out to do." It's one of the best things you can say about an artist. ■

***THE HATEFUL EIGHT* IS AVAILABLE ON DVD AND BLU-RAY FROM MAY 23**

"I DO BELIEVE IN REINCARNATION SO I'M SURE I'LL BE COMING BACK AS SOMETHING."

LONSDALE
LONDON
LONSDALELONDON.COM.AU
IT'S YOUR FIT.

DIESEL



LIAM HEMSWORTH

ONLY THE BRAVE

THE ORIGINAL FRAGRANCE

AVAILABLE AT | CHEMIST WAREHOUSE | my CHEMIST | mybeautyspot